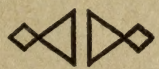
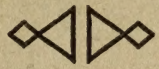
THE MIDNIGHT CRY



"Behold the Bridegroom Cometh : go ye out to meet Him."



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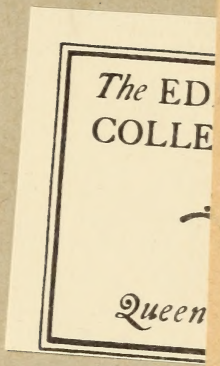
The EDITH *and* LORNE PIERCE
COLLECTION *of* CANADIANA

Queen's University at Kingston

CORRECTIONS

Page 1—line 12, for "wake" read "awake."
Page 1—line 22, for "light" read "night."
Page 3—line 8, for "line" read "lion."
Page 4—line 18, for "of" read "with."
Page 10—line 2, for "narrow" read "marrow."
Page 14—line 32, for "Bergamos" read "Pergamos."
Page 19—line 39, for "educated" read "addicted."
Page 20—line 39, insert "strong."
Page 21—line 13, for "unto" read "with."
Page 29—line 26, for "Michaed" read "Michael."
Page 34—line 32, for "beast" read "beasts."
Page 35—line 3, for "he" read "the."
Page 40—line 11, for "usstice" read "justice."
Page 40—line 27, for "fast" read "feast."
Page 41—line 18, for "beasts" read "beast."
Page 44—line 24, insert "blessing" after "Amen."
Page 44—transfer verses 11-12, as fully printed to page 46 following "happiness."
Page 44—transfer verses 13-15, as fully printed, to page 46 between lines 34 and 35.
Page 44—line 40, for "angel"read "angels."
Page 46—line 41, bring up the "v" in "living."
Page 56—line 7, for "word" read "sword."
Page 58—line 18, for "dwelt" read "dwell."
Page 81—line 42, eliminate the word "those."
Page 86—line 8, for "form" read "from."
Page 89—line 4, for "very" read "every."
Page 90—line 1, for "his" read "him."
Page 91—line 6, for "ar" read "are."
Page 102—line 12, for "sen"read "seen."
Page 102—line41, for "hat" read "hath."
Page 106—line 19, for "of" read "or."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THE AUTHOR'S PREFACE

The main point the writer of this book has in view is, to give a helping hand at building up the millennial church; or more particularly, to help to gather in the first fruits. Rev. 14:4, "These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits unto God and to the lamb."

The writer has some hope of remaining here until this grand event takes place. The first thing to be done in order to commence the millennial church, is to rouse up the sleeping virgins, or in other words the churches, from their dead slumber. Matt. 25:5, "While the Bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept." 6. "And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the Bridegroom cometh go ye out to meet him." It is the spirit of life from God entering into these sleepers which will cause them to awake. Rev. 11:11, "And after three days and a half the spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet and great fear fell upon them which saw them."

Who will make the midnight cry ? It is quite evident that the office-bearers of the church cannot do this, because they are fast asleep. Who knows but God may use this little book, to make the midnight cry, behold the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. There should never be a night in a church, much less should she be spiritually dead. Rev. 11:8, "And their dead bodies shall lie in the streets of the great city." etc. 1 Thes. 5:5, "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day we are not of the night nor of darkness." 6. "Therefore let us not sleep as do others, but let us watch and be sober." There will be a bright shining spiritual light all through the millennial period, even a sevenfold light. Is. 30:26, "Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the Lord bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound."

If this book should fall into the hands of any person who has a great desire to know the meaning of the seven sealed book, and if it saves him or her much labour, while Christ is opening the seven seals by his word and spirit; and if it should point out the scriptural method, of obtaining the true meaning of the mystic book, the author will be well pleased.

William Elliot.

Chesley Ontario Canada, May 1st., 1919.

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CHAPTER 1

Is it possible to get a right understanding of the book of Revelation ? We see by the following that it is, for the wise, Dan. 12:4, "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book even to the time of the end. 9. And he said, go thy way Daniel for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. 10. And none of the wicked shall understand but the wise shall understand. Rev. 5:4, And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. 5. Weep not, behold the lion of the tribe of Juda, the root of David hath prevailed to open the book, and to lose the seven seals thereof."

John was exceedingly anxious to know what was in the book, when he wept much, and no doubt he knew well those words in the book of Daniel, "that the wise shall understand."

This should teach us how much we need to understand this book. It is not likely our Lord will open the sealed book to any person unless they have a great desire to know the meaning; but He does make it plain by his word and spirit, to those of his redeemed who are anxious. I have had it in my mind for many years to write a little book on the Revelation. Not that I have any thought that I can open the book. Rev. 5:5, "Behold, the lion of the tribe of Juda, the root of David; hath prevailed to open the book and to loose the seven seals thereof." He alone can open the book by his word and spirit. Rev. 10:7, "As he hath declared to his servants and prophets. Rev. 5:6, "Seven eyes which are the seven spirits of God, sent forth into all the earth." The first thing then that we need in order to qualify us to understand this book is great spiritual light.

Luke 11:13, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the holy spirit to them that ask him."

A great part of the Revelation is written in figurative language, and in order to understand those words we must find where they occur all

through the Bible, read all about them,then the meaning in the Revelation becomes very plain, that is, if our mind is brightened up by the spirit of Christ: and further there are a number of explanations of words, in the book itself, to which we must attend very carefully, and apply them right, in order to get the true meaning; such as, "the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches; and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches." so that when we read of candlesticks in other places we know that they are churches, and that stars are the rulers in the churches, or inother words the servants of the churches, because if it is a true church of Christ, there are no high officials. Mark. 10:44 "And whosoever of you will be the chief shall be servant of all."

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1. The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John..

This is the last codicil of God's will and testament, He gave it to His Son who is the heir. Heb. 1:2, 'Whom He hath appointed heir of all things' Rom. 8:17, "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ." We too are heirs. The heirs to the things of this world are commonly extremely anxious, to know what is in the will. But although the will of God, and especially this part of it, is of infinite importance to all people, yet I have met with very few, who seem to know the meaning of it, or even care to know. If we care not to know these things, have we any assurance that we are his servants. John did not neglect to write it, and it has come from that lonely Isle to us.

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2. Who bear record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

This describes John so that we cannot mistake who he is, the same who leaned on our Lord's breast at supper, and who took his mother to his own home. But when this book was manifested to him, he was a poor persecuted man; banished to a lonely Island.

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3. Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

The Almighty God has made a great offer to our fallen race, even his blessing, but in order to get his blessing, we must read the book often. John 5:39, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me."

I made no progress in getting an understanding of the book, until I read it so many times that I could remember all that is recorded about the four and twenty Elders, and the four beasts; or standard bearers; the Elders are the office bearers in the churches all through the millennial period; and the beasts are the rulers over the nations.

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4. John to the seven churches which are in Asia; Grace be unto you, and peace from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven spirits which are before his throne.

5. And from Jesus Christ who is the faithful witness, and first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth.

The seven churches are a true picture, of all the churches which God does acknowledge to be his; from the day that John wrote this, down to the end of the world. So that this verse speaks to all of us, who belong to any of those churches. The word Grace; I can not find words to tell the greatness thereof; it is like God who gives it. Job 11:7, "Canst thou by searching find out God ? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection ? 8. "It is as high as heaven; what canst thou do deeper than hell, what canst thou know ?" 9. "The measure thereof is longer than the earth and broader than the sea." God's grace is all for his own redeemed ones.

PS.—136;13, "By whom the red sea parted was;
For mercy hath he ever.

14. And through its midst made Is'rl pass;
For His grace faileth never.

15. But Phar'oh and his host did drown;
For mercy hath He ever.

16. Who through the desert led His own;
For His grace faileth never."

What should I say about Peace, our God is the God of Peace. 1 Thes. 5:23, "And the very God of Peace sanctify you wholly." Heb. 13:20, "Now the God of Peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that

great shepherdof the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever, amen.

Rom. 16:20, "And the God of Peace shall bruse Satan under your feet shortly." What a grand heritage we have when we get Grace and Peace from God. The seven spirits of God are mentioned four times in this book, what I understand by this is, that God gives His redeemed ones a sevenfold portion of His Holy Spirit, so that they shall understand this book, and take warning and keep clear of all the dreadful errors which are prophesied of in it. [Is. 30:26, "Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days,in the day that the Lord bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound." And from Jesus, the faithful and true witness, we get all those promises and blessings, from the three one God. Is. 55:4, "Behold I have given thee for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people." 5." Behold thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the Lord thy God, and for the holy one of Israel; for He hath glorified thee." Although we be Gentiles who knew Him not, yet He is our prince and commander. The first begotten of the dead. This is the first resurrection when Christ laid down His life, it was an offering for the sins of all His people,and when He arose from the dead it was positive proof that infinite justice was fully satisfied, because the debt was fully paid. The saints become partakers of the first resurrection at the time when they are born again, and when Christ died, and rose again, God does look upon all saints, who have been or ever shall be, as if they all had been dead, and as if they had all risen. 2 Cor. 5:14-15, "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all then were all dead; and that He died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves but unto Him that died for them, and rosé again." This teacheth that we too shall rise. Rom. 6:5, "For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection. 1 John 3:2, "Beloved now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that when he shall appear we shall be like him for we shall see him as he is." In the last of this 5th verse, and in the 6th, 7th, and 8th, He puts words into our mouth showing his glory, whereby we may adore and worship Him, and be changed into His own image. 2 Cor. 3:18, "But we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image from glory to glory,even as by the spirit of the Lord."]

5. Unto Him that loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood.

6. And hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever, amen.

7. Behold He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him and they also which pierced Him, and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him, even so, amen.

8. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Behold He cometh with clouds; the clouds are all his redeemed people. Heb. 12:1, "Wherefore seeing we also compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses." etc., read all the chapter, also the eleventh chapter. 1 Cor. 15:51, "Behold I show you a mystery, we shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed." etc. 1st. Thes. 4:16, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first." 17. "Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord." The clouds are the great clouds of witnesses. This is His second coming in our nature. Heb. 9:28, "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation. Rev. 20:11, "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it,from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them."

Some say that He will come in our nature at the beginning of the millennial period, and dwell on the earth for a thousand years; it is a wrong idea. He will come at the beginning of the millennial period by a great outpouring of His holy spirit on His own children, even the seven spirits of God. Rev. 5:6, "And seven eyes which are the seven spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. He will come in His judgments to destory the wicked." Rev. 16:1 "And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, go your ways and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. Rev. 15:1 "In them is filled up the wrath of God."

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9. I, John, who also am your brother and companion in tribulation and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the Isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

If we be the true children of God, we may expect persecution. John 16:33, "In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer I have overcome the world."

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10. I was in the spirit on the Lord's Day and heard behind me a voice, as of a trumpet.

This along with many other scriptures, proves very positively that the Sabbath was changed from the seventh to the first day of the week. I do wish we could keep the Sabbath right according to the word. Is.58:13 "And call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words." We should be in the spirit like John.

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11. Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last; and what thou seest write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna and unto Pergamus, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

We have received the book, and should feel the same concerning it as if we had received it from the hand of Jesus, because we are the descendants of those churches.

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12. And I turned to see the voice that spake with me, and being turned I saw seven golden candlesticks.

13. And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

When we think of the garments of Aaron the high priest and the wreathen chains of gold holding the breastplate with the names of the children of Israel, it reminds us that the son of man is our great high priest, and he has in his mind the names of all his redeemed ones, and pleads for us before the throne of God.

14. His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire.

This sets forth His kingly power, whereby He casts down thrones, and destroys the wicked with His fire. Dan. 7:9, "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool, his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. 10. "A fiery stream issued and came forth before Him, thousand thousands ministered unto Him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him, the judgment was set and the books were opened."

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15. And His feet like unto fine brass as if they burned in a furnace ; and His voice as the sound of many waters.

All true preachers of the gospel are the voice of Christ especially if they be men who bear true witness against the errors and sins of the people Is. 58:1, "Cry aloud, spare not; lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins." All meek ones who are poor in spirit, and hungering and thirsting after righteousness, are delighted to see the feet of a faithful witness, but most men in our day, yea even good men cannot endure to have their sins found fault with, and any man who dare do so, will soon find what a bitter hatred he has caused in the hearts of those men. They will even sometimes go so far as to try and put him out of the church and if the man or men (who are doing wrong) be men of wealth and influence, it is wonderful how men who seem to be holy will take their part. Matt.10:22, "And ye shall be hated of all men for my sake ; but he that endureth to the end shall be saved." As the sound of many waters; waters sometimes mean the word of God. I. Cor. 3:6, "I have planted Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. Duet. 32:2, My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as showers upon the grass." This is how His word operates on His redeemed ones; but how different he raineth on the wicked. Ps. 11:6, "Upon the wicked He shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest; this shall be the portion of their cup.'

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16. And He had in His right hand seven stars; and out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword; and His countenance was as the sun shineth in His strength.

The word is His own word, contained in the Old and New Testaments. Heb. 4:12, "For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than

any two-edged sword piercing even to the dividing assunder of soul and spirit and of the joints and marrow, and is a decerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." [He made a display of His strength when He led His people into the holy land, and His countenance did shine on His own. Ps. 44:3, "For they got not the land in possession by their own sword neither did their own arm save them, but Thy right hand and Thine arm, and the light of Thy countenance, because Thou hadst a favor unto them."]

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17. And when I saw Him I fell at His feet as dead, and He laid His right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last.

18. I am He that liveth and was dead; and behold I am alive for ever more, amen.

When Daniel saw in a vision the same things which are contained in this book, he too fell like a dead man, but John seems to have rallied far sooner than Daniel. There were many things done to Daniel, before he was strong enough to hear the vision. John was well acquainted with our Lord, he heard Him preach the true gospel, he saw Him work many miracles. He saw Him transfigured on the holy mount, he saw Him when He was suffering the wrath of God in the Garden, he saw Him taken prisoner, he saw Him tried with a sham trial for His life, he saw Him die on the cross, he went into the grave and saw the grave clothes, he heard Him speak after He arose from the dead, he saw Him ascend up to heaven, when he felt the touch of His hand, and heard who He was, it put life into him.

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18. And have the keys of hell and death.

There is a man with many dignataries under him, who claimeth to have the keys of hell and of heaven too, they claim to be able to take people out of a place of torment, and put them into a place of happiness after death. God has never said that any change takes place after death. Mark. 9 43:44, "To go into hell into the fire that never shall be quenched: where their worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched."

19. Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter.

20. The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in My right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

This explanation should be kept in mind through the whole book, when we read about stars they are the rulers or the servants of the churches; and when we read about candlesticks we know that they are churches. God teacheth us greatly by types and shadows or pictures, all through the scriptures. Abel and Cain are a picture of the two kinds of people, the righteous and the wicked, through all time. The Jewish nation are held up before us to show us how differently God dealeth with his own children, than with the wicked. [Ps. 147, 19:20, "He showeth His word unto Jacob, His statues and His judgments unto Israel, He hath not dealt so with any nation; and as for His judgments they have not known them. Praise ye the Lord." It would take a great deal of writing to copy all that God has done for the Jews, there is so very much written about it in the scriptures. And although they did reject the council of God against themselves, and got His son put to death, and said His blood be on us, and on our children. Add to this all their disobedience, to His commands recorded in the Old Testament. Yet God will do for them what He hath said in His word. Jer. 30:11, "For I am with thee, saith the Lord, to save thee; though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee; but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished." But He will yet do great things for them, see how He is still standing and pleading with them to come and accept of His salvation. The apostles had to begin at Jerusalem, and Paul although he was the apostle of the gentiles, yet he always made the first offer to the Jews. And although they stick out so long and will not come. Hos. 3 4:5, "For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim." 6. "Afterwards shall the children of Israel return and seek the Lord their God, and David their king, and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days." God will bring them to their own land. Is. 14:1, "For the Lord will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land."] Now when God will do so very much for the type, or picture, what will He not do for the true Israel of God ?

A great part of their worship and ceremonies, were pictures of the New Testament worship, and of heaven itself. The seven churches of Asia are a picture of all the churches from the time this little book was given to the end of the world. Ephuses, Pergamos, and Thyitira are pictures of the ordinary visible church. Smyrna and Philadelphia were the two witnesses when this little book was given.

Smyrna is a picture of the down trodden witnesses all through the dark ages of persecution, and who are overcome just before the dawn of the millennium, by the false teaching of the beast. Rev. 11:7, "And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them and kill them." This beast is the beast mentioned in Rev. 13:11, or in other words protestanism and the two witnesses become spiritually dead. In my opinion they are dead now, or nearly so. Philadelphia is a picture of the millennial church. Sardis is a picture of the church of Rome as long as God claimed it to be a church. Laodicea is a picture of all the protestant churches who will unite and make the second beast mentioned in Rev. 13: this union is fairly under way at the present time.

CHAPTER 2

1. Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; these things saith He that holdeth the seven stars in His right hand who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks.

2. I know thy works and thy labor, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars.

3. And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

Is there a church on this earth this day, which could be compared to this church of Ephesus; in her labor, patience, hatred of sin, discipline, and zeal for Christ's name ? If there is one it has not come under my notice. Luke 18:8, "Nevertheless when the son of man cometh shall he find faith on the earth ?" The time of His coming is near at hand. The christian churches have degenerated until they have become like

what the children of Israel were in the time our Lord came to our world. Mat. 23:33, "Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can you escape the damnation of hell ?" The true people of God are the salt of the earth, but we see by looking back to the flood, that when the saints become few in number, that God takes them from among the wicked, and destroys the world. He will destroy the world before long. Mat. 24:37, "But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

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4. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

5. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen and repent and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place except thou repent.

We see by this what a weight our Lord lays on the grace of love; love is one of the principal marks whereby we may know whither we be the children of God or not. John 13:35, "By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples if ye have love one to another." Let us as churches examine ourselves whither we have this love, I for one have not seen it in any church.

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6. But this thou hast that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate.

All that we can know about the Nicolaitanes is by their name, God gives them a bad name, he hates them: they were an organization or an association not appointd by God in His word, therefore God hates them. No wonder he is displeased with the churches of our day, for allowing so many of their members to belong to unhallowed associations, not appointed in his word.

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7. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches; to him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life; which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

"Let him hear." God does mean by this that we pay attention and know what He requireth of us. "He that overcometh." It is a comfort that although the churches are lacking, yet there may be individuals who please God. "The tree of life." Christ is the good olive tree, the true vine, the true bread of which if a man eat he shall live forever.

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8. And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; these things saith the first and the last, which was dead and is alive.

9. I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the Synagogue of Satan.

10. Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer; behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried and ye shall have tribulation ten days; be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

11. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches, he that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

Let us now look at what God says to Smyrna. "I am the first and the last, which was dead and am alive." That is He is God Almighty, and also man, in His death He atoned for all their sins, His resurrection showed that infinite justice was fully satisfied. O how comforting to people so poor, and suffering such dreadful persecution, even called upon to lay down their lives, to know by a letter from the third heavens, showing how highly they are esteemed by the mighty God, and that they are perfectly safe from the second death. Rev. 20:14, "And death and hell were cast into a lake of fire. This is the second death." "I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan." We see by this that people who pretend to be true worshippers and are only hypocrites, are counted blasphemers, and that Satan is their God. How much more is it blasphemy when evil men pretend to have the keys of heaven and hell.

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12. And unto the angel of the church in Pergamos write: these things saith He which hath the sharp sword with two edges.

13. I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where satan's seat is, and thou holdest fast My name, and hast not denied My faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.

14. But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

15. So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes which thing I hate.

16. Repent, or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

17. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches; to him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

What a grand recommendation in a letter sent direct from heaven, they professed God's name, among a people who were very wicked, and thirsting for their blood, and one of them was actually put to death, one, who according to the testimony of God, was a real saint. But God has a few things against them because they were not careful enough in taking in members to their church, they had mischievious persons who were trying to lead members into sin, like Balaam, who also loved the wages of unrighteousness, and also Nicolaitanes, some associations not appointed by God in His word, but invented by the evil spirit, many of them having a great show of good, but their main object is nearly always to lead men away from Christ. God hates their deeds and doctrines. Is. 8:9, "Associate yourselves,O ye people and ye shall be broken in pieces."

God does not say to put them out of the church, so that the blame must be for taking them in, it is the devil who sow the tares among the wheat, and God says, Mat. 13:20, "Let both grow together until the harvest; and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles, to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn." The harvest time is Christ's coming at the beginning of the millennium, by His judgments to destroy the wicked, and to gather in His own children by His word and spirit. God will fight against these Balaams and Nicolaitanes with the sword of His mouth,

except they repent, who will God send to fight ? He will send some of His witnesses who will be bold enough even if it should cost them their life to point out to those Balaams and their followers, that although they make a fair outward show, yet God knoweth their hearts and that after being faithfully warned and unless they repent, they will come to an end like Balaam. And the Nicolaitanes, will learn soon or late, that God hateth every association which He has not appointed in His word, and when He sendeth His faithful servants to warn them, that unless they repent, they will bring upon themselves fearful destruction; because those two witnesses have wonderful power. Rev. 11, 5:6, "And if any man will hurt them fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devouried their enemies; and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed." These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy, and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth wiith all plagues, as often as they will."

"He that hath an ear let him hear." When God says words seven times over as He has done these, they are surely of great importance, it should make every person who readeth them extremely anxious to hear or in other words to understand this book. As to the hidden manna and white stone, Christ himself is the hidden manna. John 6, 57:58, "As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father; so he that eateth me , shall live forever. This is that bread that came down from heaven; not as your Fathers did eat manna, and are dead; he that eateth of this bread shall live forever."

Christ himself is the white stone, He is a living stone, a precious stone. Song. 5:10, "My beloved is white and ruddy, the chiefest among ten thousand."

I. Pet. 2, 6:7, "Behold I lay in Zion a chief corner stone elect precious; and he that believeth on Him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe He is precious." The name that God gave him is his new name. Eph. I:21, "Above every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come." He giveth his bride his new name. "Which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it." In place of caling it a white stone in those who overcome in Philadelphia, he writes his new name on them, they are like Elijah standing up bearing witness to the whole truth, they are known and read of all men.

Pergamos does not bear open testimony to all the truth of God's word therefore no man knoweth that they have Christ. They need a true witness to help them when taking members into the church, but those who overcome, and eat the manna, and receive the white stone; although they may be grieved to see members joining their church who will ultimately destroy it, and make it a synagogue of Satan, unless God prevent, yet they have the peace of God in their hearts.

18. And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write, these things saith the son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a fiame of fire and his feet are like fine brass.

19. I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.

20. Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

21. And I gave her space to repent of her fornication, and she repented not.

22. Behold I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultry with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

23. And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am He which searcheth the reins and hearts; and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

24. But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of satan as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.

25. But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.

26. And he that overcometh,and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations.

27. And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers; even as I received of my Father.

28. And I will give him the morning star.

29. He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches.

Our Lord in commencing these seven epistles brings us in mind of some of his attributes which needeth to be put into exercise, to suit the condition of the church addressed; in this epistle He introduceth Himself as the Son of God who hath His eyes like unto a flame of fire, this is a word of comfort to all who are obedient to His word and put their trust in Him, but enough to strike terror into the hearts of those who pay no attention to His word, but follow the inventions of men which God hateth.

Ps. 99:8, "Thou tookest vengeance of their inventions."

His feet like unto fine brass." His saints are glad to see His beautiful feet coming. Rom. 10:15, "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and glad tidings of good things."

"I know thy works and charity." This is love, there is nothing to be compared to love, to bind and hold people together, we see by what follows that some of this church will remain until the millennium. The church of Ephesus had a great many more recommendations than this one, in fact a real witness for the truth; only lacking in the grace of love, and we have no word to show that they were a church any length of time; this should teach us to try and cultivate the grace of love, it seems very hard for people to use the means which God hath provided for this purpose, He says, James, 5:16, "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed."

I have been working in churches for over forty years, and I can only remember of two individuals who could be induced to use this remedy, and in these cases it created love, they were drawn closer together than when the trouble began. I have heard a leader in God's house say that he had found a better way to make peace, although he did acknowledge that the above was God's way; he used his plan and it turned out the same as we are taught by the epistle to Ephesus.

If we would find and read all that God teacheth in His word about love, it should make any person humble enough to use the remedy(when trouble ariseth) which God hath given.

Ps. 133, 1:3 "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. For there the Lord commandeth the blessing even life forever more.

"And service, and faith and thy patience." We should give ourselves and all we have up to God, and serve Him according to His word.

Rom. 12:1, "I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service, and be not conformed to this world. etc."

Faith is the saving grace,it is the gift of God, how will we get faith? Ordinarily God gives faith through the use of the means he has appointed in His word, if we find all that is said about Christ in the Old Testament; read all the promises to his children. All the sacrifices pointed to His death, teaching us that sin could not be forgiven without shedding of blood. And all things that were prophecied concerning him. And if we search the New Testament and find how the Old Testament is explained by Christ and His Apostles. Rom. 10:17, "So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God." 2nd Pet. 1:19, "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth into a dark place,until the day dawn and the day star arise in your hearts." We need not expect to get faith unless we seek earnestly and diligently into God's word and thereby become convinced of all things concerning our Lord and Saviour. 2nd Cor. 13:5, "Examine yourselves, whither ye be in the faith; prove your own selves."

Concerning patience; we should not be discouraged when we are brought into trouble. Rom. 5, 3:4, "Tribulation worketh patience and patience experience and experience hope." Look to God , He alone can save. Eph. 2:10, "For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works." Col. 3:1, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." John 3:5, "Jesus answered, verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." The water in this verse meaneth God's word. 1st Cor. 3:6, "I have planted, Apollos watered but God gave the increase." Let us see to it that we be diligent in searching the word and ask God for His spirit in order to be born again; We have every encouragement to ask for the spirit. Luke 11:13, "If ye then being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit,. to them that ask Him."

"And the last to be more than the first." This shows that those in Thyatira were advancing in their spiritual life,according to the last of the epistle there were some very exemplary saints. But those who kept the gates were not careful enough in admitting members; after reading this epistle they no doubt have been more careful or they could hardly have kept on to be a true church until the millennium.

"Because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel." Have we, any Jezebels? O yes, we have a Women's Christain Temperance Union, (and many more things like it) a more gigantic lady than the Jezebel of Thyatira; and I have no doubt that God intended this epistle for our Jezebel, as well as for the Jezebel of Thyatira, for He knoweth the end from the beginning, and our Jezebel should pay good attention and repent in time, or if not all those dreadful things will come on her. The first thing to inquire into is,what spirit it is that bringeth about such great results ? There must be a great moving spirit, because we find that when Satan is bound and shut up for a thousand years, that unrenewed men are quiet and peaceable and content to let the saints rule the nations, and never attempt to meddle in church matters, until Satan is let loose again, and there is nothing more certain than that this great lady is led by some great moving spirit, now if it were the Holy Spirit of God, He always directs the minds of men to His own holy word, and there is no scripture for anything like this great W. C. T. U. Satan is uncommonly cunning, so that he makes a great show of good he has taken one great sin to which men are educated, (and that greatly by his own temptations) and has led these poor silly women,away from the word of God, and taken them away from their own families where God put them, they have neglected the teaching of their own children, to whom God commanded them to teach His law. Deut. 6:7, "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." Now if these of them who have families, would do all this, it would take all their time, but they neglect their families, and

spend their time and energy, thinking they are pleasing God, by trying to save men from being drunkards, and in some cases their own husbands who lie in their bosom, and their sons get drunk, surely God will say, who hath required this at your hand. The above teaching of the W. C. T. U. has been objected to in the following words:

"I have no more sympathy with the W. C. T. U. than you have, but I cannot see that it was symbolized by "Jezebel." There is unquestionably an allusion to Jezebel the wife of Ahab. This Thyatirian woman had the character and did the works of Jezebel. Now, Jezebel never pretended to do anything that was good. She was an open, professed, violent enemy of Jehovah, his law, his worship, and his people. What ever else we may say of the W. C. T. U. they profess to be on the side of Christianity." He says Jezebel never pretended to do anything that was good. She no doubt thought she was doing good, when there were four hundred prophets who did eat at her table. I. Kings 18:19. But where our Jezebel is like the Jezebel of old, is, that she is teaching and seducing the servants of the most high God, and has been so successful in this matter, that almost every pastor, and teacher, in all christain churches, have been seduced by her, so that they have lost all confidence in the word of God ever being of any use to cure the crying sin of drunkeness. She has been as successful in this matter as Jezebel of old was when she seduced the elders, and nobles, whom God in His providence had set over the city of Jezreel, when they stoned Naboth to death. The three Jezebels are surely all very much alike. Now the teaching of the word of God is the only remedy that will cure drunkeness, or any other sin. And many of those poor deluded servants are handling the word of God deceitfully, trying to make people believe that it teacheth differently in this matter, than it really does. Every departure from God's holy word is called whoredom; and spiritual whoredom does seem to be more loathsome to God than any other sin. Many of those who claim to be the servants of God have made a change in the kind of wine which they use at what they call the Lord's supper; and have thereby made it the table of devils. (If I understand the word of God rightly in this matter.) I. Cor. 10:21, "Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of the devil; ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils." At the institution of the Lord's supper, he used the wine that they had at the feast of the passover. The wine for drink offerings had to be wine. Nun. 28; 7, "And the drink offerings thereof shall be the fourth part of an hin for the one lamb: in the holy place shalt thou cause the STRONG wine to be poured unto the Lord for a drink offering." The wine used by the Apostle Paul at the Lord's supper made the Corinthians drunk; this does show what kind of wine Paul used, surely the safe way is to use the kind of wine used by our Lord, and his apostles. The Jezebel of Thyatira got warning and God gave her space to repent of her fornication : and she repented not. Has our Jezebel got any warning ? I fear not, for many of those who should be sounding the fifth trumpet; are praising and adoring her. My advice to all those ladies is, take your bibles and search into them

diligently, and see if you can find any warrant from God for what you are doing. Is there a word in the whole book showing that God will permit or endure a W. C. T. U. ? And if you cannot find any command from God abandon the whole thing, and begin and follow the lamb whithersoever he goeth. And to those of God's servants, who have committed adultry with her, I would say forsake her; and repent of the sin of having forsaken the word of God, and of having followed the inventions of women and men. Begin and try the teaching of the word of God to cure drunkeness; tell them that no drunkard can enter the kingdom; and if you can get them convinced of what a dreadful, and horrible, thing it is to be shut out of the Kingdom, they will surely tremble:and ask God in faith to seal them with that holy Spirit of promise.

"And I will kill her children WITH death." No doubt but this is eternal death; O how fearful to neglect to teach our children the law of God, and of His house, and have them killed with death.

"But unto you I say and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan as they speak, I will put upon you none other burden. But that which ye have already hold fast till I come." The descendants of this church will be here when Christ cometh in His wrath to destroy the wicked of the earth, and raise up his two witnesses to spiritual life. Rev. 6:17, "For the great day of his wrath has come and who shall be able to stand." Rev. 11; 11, "The Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet."

"And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end to him will I give power over the nations; and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers; even as I have received of my Father." God is going to take some of the descendants of those of Thyatira to rule over the nations in the millennium, Christ will break all the nations with his iron rod, the same thing is revealed in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, in the book of Daniel. The great image is a picture of all the great ruling powers from Nebuchadnezzar's day to the millennium, the little stone is Christ, this showeth that Christ will not come in our nature and stay one thousand years on this earth, as some say, but He will come and put His spirit into those of Thyatira and they will rule the nations, and He will break the nations to pieces with his iron rod.

Dan. 2:34, "Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands which smote the image upon his feet, that were of iron and clay, and break them to pieces."

Ps. 2:9, "Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

"And I will give him the morning star. He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches." The morning star is Christ, he giveth himself to us the same as a man giveth himself to a wife, let us all listen, and hear, and know what he saith.

1. And unto the Angel of the church of Sardis write; these things saith he that hath the seven spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works that thou hast a name that thou livest and art dead.

2. Be watchful,and strengthen the things which remain,that are ready to die; for I have not found thy works perfect before God.

3. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent...If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

4. Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white for they are worthy.

5. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his Angels.

6. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches.

This church is a picture of the church of Rome. There is not a word in this epistle to show that any of this church will enter the millennium. She is dead, this is spiritual death, having only a name to live, this shows how soon a church and people will degenerate, even before all the Apostles have left this world. Did this epistle awake this church ? Alas no, although Christ did send an epistle to them from the highest heavens, and offered to them the seven spirits of God. O what a deep sleep Sardis was in, when an offer like this would not rouse her up. And the seven stars. O yes he sent to them seven stars. Seven true and faithful witnesses who did lift up their voice like a trumpet, and showed them their transgressions and their sins; what effect had all this on them ? They rejected the counsel of God against themselves, and all their spiritual food was destroyed, with hail, and fire mingled with blood, even the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And what did they do ? O they killed those true men who were sent among them. Rev. 8:7, "The first Angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth; and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up. Rev. 16, 4:7, "And the third Angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. And I heard the Angel of the waters say, thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and vast, and shall be, because thou hast judged thus; for they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given blood to drink for they are worthy. And I heard another out of the altar say, even so

Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast and repent.' See how he pleadeth with them, and giveth them time, even twelve hundred and sixty years, then He warneth them, if therefore thou shalt not watch I will come upon thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

According to what he saith in another place their destruction will be violent. Rev. 18:31, "And a mighty Angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all." Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white; for they are worthy. These are like the martyrs. Rev. 6, 9:11, "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held. And white robes were given unto every one of them." What a poor time a few saints would have in a church spiritually dead, but God preserveth them because their names are written in the Lambs book of life. Although there were a few saints in her, when this little book was given, we find that in after years she became dreadfully wicked, so that God commandeth all his children to come out of her. Rev. 18:4, "Come out of her my people that ye be not partakers of her sins; and that ye receive not of her plagues."

Those who overcome in this dead church, Christ will make special mention of them before His Father, and before His holy Angels, because they were not ashamed of him among those people who were spiritually dead. Mark. 8:13, "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy Angels."

It is a wonder to men, and John did marvel when it was revealed to him, that God would suffer such a sinful wicked system to remain on the earth, but God has wise purposes that we know not anything about, but it will come to an end, because our Lord sware that at the beginning of the sounding of the seventh trumpet, the mystery of God shall be finished. They have been faithfully warned in days gone by, by true witnesses with the trumpets of God. Four of the seven have already been sounded, but instead of obeying God when he saith, "remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast and repent." They did not listen, but did put God's servants to death, and brought upon themselves all the dreadful darkness, as recorded in the eighth chapter of this book, and in the future world as recorded in the fourteenth chapter verses 9:11.

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7. And unto the Angel of the church in Philadelphia write; these things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth and no man shutteth and shutteth and no man openeth.

8. I know thy works; behold I have set before thee an open door and no man can shut it, for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

9. Behold I will make them of the synagogue of Satan which say they are jews, and are not, but do lie; behold I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

10. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

11. Behold I come quickly; hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

12. Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God,and he shall go no more out;and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven, from my God, and I will write upon him my new name.

13. He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches.

This church is a picture of the church during the millennium; but all through the dark ages she became like Smyrna, a poor people driven into the wilderness, and thousands of them put to death; because they upheld the word of God, and shewed the people of the world, their sins and transgressions, our Lord cometh to them in this epistle as the holy and true one; and they are like Him, for He findeth no fault with them, but in our day their descendants, along with the descendants of the church of Smyrna are spiritually dead; because that in some things they have lost faith in the word of God, and are trying other plans to accomplish what God intends His word to do, and they have also lost sight of the true meaning of God's book of praise; which is the best song that ever was on the earth, because everything in the Old Testament and in the New, are mentioned in the Psalms, if we could only see it, so that when we sing them, they should always remind us of the true and wonderful word of God, which is the bread of eternal life. Mat. 4:4, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." There are enough of quotations from the book of Psalms, in the New Testament to explain the whole book; and in place of Christ not being in the Psalms (as some say;) they are His own words very often speaking about himself, how He has kept the law of God; yes He has kept it for us, He speaks of His innocence, confessing our sins as if they were His own, complaing of His sufferings and of bearing the wrath of God; all

this was done that we might escape eternal punishment.

I. Pet. 2:24, "Who His own self bear our sins in His own body on the tree, that we being dead to sin should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed."

"He that hath the key of David, he that openeth &c" David was a type of Christ in his kingly office,this teacheth that Christ was king in our nature. Let us now take a look at the church of Philadelphia, as she is held up all through this little book. Christ is her king riding on the white horse, she is the one that put the crown on his head. But when all His people out of the churches and nations will be gathered together, they will crown Him with many crowns.

"Behold I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it" She will continue to be a church until the end of this world; and when Christ cometh on His great white throne, she shall not die, but be changed and go with Christ to His Father's house. "Behold I will make them of the synogogue of Satan, which say they are Jews and are not, but do lie, behold;I will make them to come and worship before thy feet,and to know that I have loved thee." Yes, when the last battle has been fought; and the beast and false prophet, that wrought miracles before Him, are taken, and cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone; the remnant who are left, will come bending into her, for they themselves will then be in His love.

"Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I will also keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the ea rth."

He will not send the hail of his anger upon her, nor allow the fire of Satan to cause her to reject His word, or to kill His saints, nor will he pour the vials of His wrath upon her.

"Behold I come quickly; hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." O.she came near loosing her crown when she gave way to Satan so much that her enemies pronounced her dead, and were glad, but God will soon raise her up again and make her more holy than ever she was before, even like unto heaven itself, and she from this time forth will be a picture of the mansions of glory until the end of the world. "Him that overcometh I will make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out." Holy children will rise up and take the place of their fathers. Ps. 45:16, "Instead of thy fathers shall be thy children, whom thou mayest make princes in all the earth."

"And I will write upon him the name of God." Rev. 14:1, "His father's name written in their foreheads." God is a spirit, they will have great spiritual light, it will brighten their countenance so that their face shall shine. God is love, their faces will be glowing with love, they will delight to see each other. God is light, they will understand his word, it will be a sea of glass mingled with fire, even the seven spirits of God.

'And the name of the city of my God; which is new Jerusalem which cometh down out of heaven from my God." Their name will be called no

more Jacob but Israel, they will be the true Israel of God. Rev. 21:27, "And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination or maketh a lie; but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."

"And I will write upon him my new name; his new name is the name the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory gave him, above every name that is named, not only in this world but also in that which is to come."

"He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches." O, if all the churches had listened and obeyed our Lord as the church of Philadelphia has done, but then how could the word of God have been fulfilled.

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14. And unto the Angel of the church of the Laodiceans write: these things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God.

15. I know thy works, that thou art neither cold or hot; I would thou wert cold or hot.

16. So then because thou art luke warm,and neither cold nor hot I will spue thee out of my mouth.

17. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing;and knowest not that thou art wretched and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.

18. I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed; and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear, and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

19. As many as I love,I rebuke and chasten, be zealous therefore and repent.

20. Behold I stand at the door and knock...If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

21. To him that overcometh, will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne

22. He that hath an ear let him hear whatthe spirit sayeth unto the churches.

Laodicea is a picture of all those protestant churches, who will unite and make the second beast, mentioned in Rev. chapter 13. Our Lord cometh to this church as the Amen, so be it, everything on this earth are settled in the purposes of God before the foundation of the world, and this little book is a prophecy of some of his purposes, which will most certainly be fulfilled. But who will he send to bear true witness to the people, his two witnesses are in a dead sleep ? O, He will soon raise up His two witnesses to life again, although the ten Virgnis are fast asleep. There will soon be a cry made, behold the bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet him, God will put the spirit of life into them, and will take them up in a cloud, and set them nearer to himself than they ever were before. Because these Laodiceans are luke warm, he will spue them out of his mouth, this is dreadful: a man never returns to his vomit again, so that except they repent in good time, after having been warned, their doom will be sealed and the door shut. But they will not all repent or how could the prophecy concerning the second beast be fulfilled, some will repent because he will take them for rulers in the millennium.

"Because thou sayest I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing." Well they are exceedingly rich, in the things which they set the greatest value upon, even their own inventions. They have Christian Endeavours, Young Men's Christian Associations, Women's Christian Temperance Unions, and many more too numerous to mention, and last but not least their Sabbath Schools, which they have made a separate organization from the church, and some very high officials in it, higher than any official appointed by Christ in His house, and their teachers, how many of them can point out a place in the word of God, where God aloweth them to teach as public as a Sabbath School, not unless they be elders in God's house. And God suffereth not a woman to speak in the church, but they have a great work to do in their own house, especially if they have children, they can even teach ministers of the Gospel, in a private way. Aquila and Priscilla, when they heard Apolos preach, took him unto them, and expounded unto him, the way of God more perfectly; A mother or father are responsible to God, because He has commanded them to teach their children, and they feel it, and reverently perform it as a duty to God, but those Sabbah School teachers are quite different, because they have no authority from God. If we could all do what God commands, we would do exceedingly well, but if we despise or neglect His commands, and do what seemeth good in our eyes, how doth it stand between us and our God. Is. 5, 21:25, "Woe to them that are wise in their own eyes,and prudent in their own sight,therefore as fires devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rotteness, and their blossoms shall go up as dust; because they have cast away the law of the Lord of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel. Therefore is the anger of the Lord kindled against His people, and He hath stretched forth His hand against them,and has smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcasses were torn in the midst of the street, for all this his anger is not turned away, but His hand is

stretched out still."

"I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich." They must become heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ in order to be rich, rich in faith and good works. "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God. Therefore I love thy commands above gold yea above the fine gold. More to be desired are they than gold, yea than much fine gold."

The temple of God was lined with gold, if we be the children of God then we are the temple of God, and the spirit of God dwelleth in us; if any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy.

"And white raiment that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear." The righteousness of Christ is the white raiment, He fulfilled the holy law of God for us, it is called fine linen clean and white. In His death he suffered all the shame due to us, if we be His children.

"And anoint thine eyes with eyesalve that thou mayest see." In Rev. 5:6, are these words: "Seven eyes which are the seven spirits of God sent forth into all the world." In offering eyesalve, He offereth a seven fold portion of His holy spirit. Whosoever receiveth this shall see into the holy word of God, and see the glory of Christ therein; and be changed into the same image.

"As many as I love I rebuke and chasten; be zealous therefore and repent." We see by this that there is yet great love in the heart of Christ for this church, because He has some of His own children there who will listen when the true witnesses arise and sound the rumpet, and show them their true position, they will ask for light and they will give up everything which is not according to the word of God.

"Behold I stand at the door and knock." He is standing outside, He cannot go in and be with a people who has left His holy word, and set up things of their own.

"If any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him, and he with me." Every true preacher of the Gospel are His voice, and every one who hears the sound of the Gospel do get the offer of salvation from Christ. He is knocking at the door of the hearts of all his children, and they shall hear His voice and open their hearts, and He will come in by His Holy Spirit and feed their hungry souls and they will make His heart glad, yea He shall see of the travel of His soul and shall be satisfied. What doth he want His children to do, after their hearts are opened, seeing He cannot go into the house and feast with them there ? O, His command to them is, come out. II Cor. 6, 17:18, "Come out from among them, and be ye separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters saith the Lord Almighty."

Hark to what He saith.

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne"

This great King will set up His throne on this earth. Dan. 2:35, "The stone that smote the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth." Some say that He will come in our nature and sit on His throne and dwell here for a thousand years. This is a great mistake. He will take His own servants, whom He hath bought with His own blood, and set them on His throne. They shall rule the earth all through the millennium and those who are alive at the end shall be changed, and they shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air and they shall ever be with the Lord. Dan. 7:27, "And the Kingdom and the dominion, and the greatness of the Kingdom, under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most high; whose Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him." Those who overcame in this church shall be in the company with those four beasts, or in other words, those four standard bearers mentioned in the fourth chapter of this book. They are in and around the throne.

Now a word to those who will not repent, who are in the church. The true witnesses who will sound the fifth trumpet, will very soon arise from their dead sleep, and God will give them a sevenfold portion of His Holy Spirit,so that they will easily discern between, the unsearchable riches of Christ and the wealth of this church, of which God saith they are, "wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked."

What a dreadful deceiver Satan is, when he can deceive well meaning men and women, until there is such a dispute between them and the Almighty. And we can see that this dispute is kept up until it culminates in an open war, between the dragon and his followers, and Christ or Michael and his followers. Rev. 12, 7:8, "Michael and his Angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his Angels, and prevailed not." And the followers of the dragon are two hundred million, all great men riding on horses like kings. Rev. 9:16, "And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand; and I heard the number of them." The army of Christ are a very small band at the commencement of this war, only one hundred and forty four thousand, less than one to one thousand. Rev. 14:1, "A Lamb stood in the mount Sion, and with him an hundred and forty and four thousand." The dragon leadeth these Laodiceans so far away from God, that they began to speak like himself. He hath the golden text taught in his Sabbath Schools until many of his children have begun to doubt the word of God being what it should be, and now these little fellows have got on to be teachers in the schools and colleges and they are great men indeed; they are so highly educated, that they can now, criticize the word of God Almighty, and do as flatly contradict the word of God as ever the dragon did. When God said, "The day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." The dragon said, "Ye shall not surely die" The dragon hath made them believe that many of the songs in the book of praise, which God hath given unto us, are so bloody and cruel, that they are not fit for people to sing, who are so rich and increased with goods as they

are. They do not know that Christ himself is the speaker in the Psalms, they were all dictated by his spirit, David never claimed them as his own words, but tells us plainly who they came from. II Sam 23:2, "The spirit of the Lord spake by me, and His word was in my tongue." So we see that the hard words in the Psalms were all spoken by our Lord Jesus himself against His enemies, and against those who nailed Him to the tree. Ps. 22:16, "They pierced my hands and feet."

No wonder that God is angry when the poor, blind, and naked creatures would cast such a slur upon Him, as to deliberately, in the great councils of their churches, set aside the song book, which was dictated by the spirit of the great and dreadful God, who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell forever. Ps. 145:20, "The Lord preserveth all them that love Him, but all the wicked will He destroy."

"He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches." This hath been said seven times over, the importance ot it cannot be estimated. O, I would like if all the people would humble themselves and give up their riches and goods which are of no value, and seek diligently after true and everlasting riches. It is some comfort to know that some will repent, and turn to the true God.

CHAPTER 4

After this I looked, and behold, a door was opened in heaven, and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me, which said come up hither and I will show thee things which must be hereafter.

And immediately I was in the spirit, and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.

3. And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone. And there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.

4. And round about the throne were four and twenty seats, and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.

5. And out of the throne proceedeth lightnings,and thunderings and voices.

And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven spirits of God.

6. And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal, and in the midst of the throne and round about the throne were four beasts full of eyes, before and behind.

7. And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast was like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.

8. And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him. And they were full of eyes within. And they rest not day and night, saying Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

9. And when those beasts gave glory and honor and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth forever and ever.

10. The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne saying

11. Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power, for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

We are now come to the place where the great God is about to set up His throne on our earth. A door opened in heaven, this is for the church of Philadelphia, he that hath the key of David hath opened the door. The voice of a trumpet, yes take warning, God hath come near; the place where thou standest is holy ground, come up hither. Moses said I exceedingly fear and quake; when God did talk with Moses his face did shine, all the faces of those Philadelphians will shine, because God will write His name in their foreheads.

"Immediately I was in the spirit." He will give those Philadelphians a sevenfold portion of his holy spirit.

He is a stone most precious, a living stone, a tried stone, white and ruddy, the chiefest among ten thousand.

They will remember the covenant he made with Noah, he will not destroy the earth with a flood, but he will give all who enter this heaven the sure mercies of David. He will make a new covenant with them. Heb. 8:10, "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind and write them in their hearts, and I will be to them a God and they shall be to me a people."

These are the servants of the most High God, they are the Angel of the church of Philadelphia, He makes them a pillar in the temple of his God and they shall go no more out. Their descendants shall remain until He comes on His great white throne, and be caught up to meet Him in the air.

This is like what the children of Israel saw at Mount Sinai, they were very much afraid, and said to Moses, "Speak now with us and we will hear, but let not God speak with us, lest we die." God is here mak-

ing these Philadelphians better acquainted with His word than they ever were before.

The seven spirits of God are now held out to these four and twenty elders, and they receive the benefit, because while God is pouring out the vials of his wrath on those of Sardis and Laodicea, who would not hear; we had these elders and the whole household of faith, standing on a sea of glass mingled with fires, which is the word of God, lighted up with the seven spirits of God; chapter 15 of this book.

The word of God is likened unto glass in a number of passages. II Cor. 3, 15:18, "When Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart. But we all with open face, beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image, from glory to glory even as by the spirit of the Lord."

This sea of glass is the whole word of God, become clear and plain to minds who have been given a sevenfold spiritual light. The four beasts in and around the throne are the rulers over the nations in the millennium.

In the book of Daniel, the Kings are called beasts many times. "Full of eyes." They look well to all their doings.

These are the standards, the government which God set over the children of Israel in the wilderness, is a picture of the government in the millennium, they had four standards. When God giveth His servants spiritual light, such as He will give, they will have such good understanding of the word of God, that they will be able to set up a government in exact accord with the word. Those who overcame in the church of Thyatira and Laodicea, are they who will be the rulers over the nations in the millennium.

I suppose that this doth set forth how swiftly they can go from place to place, it seemeth like as that God hath given all those rapid ways of communication, which we now have, in order to prepare the way, so that the whole earth could be under one government.

They look well to their own doings, and take good care that all their laws are in exact accord with the word of God, and that they will do justice between man and man.

They have good reason to adore their King, seeing that He hath taken them out from churches like Thyatira, with her Jezebel, and the servants who were taught and seduced by her; and Laodicea, so far away from God, that He would spue them out of His mouth. And when they see the dismal doom of all in those churches, who pay no attention to Christ knocking at the door of their hearts, offering them His holy word which is the most pure gold, and offering His own righteousness which is the raiment, and His Holy spirit which is the eyesalve, they are thankful when they see how God has destroyed their leaders and teachers, and has saved them.

These elders too are very humble, when they think of how spiritually dead they had been, and their hearts are overflowing with love and grati-

tude to their great King.

Now to show that our Lord Jesus will not come in our nature, (as some say) and live here for a thousand years, we will quote three verses from the seventh chapter of the book of Daniel. 18. "But the saints of the Most High shall take the Kingdom, and possess the Kingdom, forever, even forever and ever." 22 "Until the ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High, and the time came that the saints possessed the Kingdom." 27 "And the Kingdom and dominion and the greatness of the Kingdom, under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose Kingdom is an ever lasting Kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him."

The Kingdom that God will very soon give to His saints, is a picture of His dominion over all.

CHAPTER 5

1. And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within, and on the back side, sealed with seven seals.

2. And I saw a strong Angel proclaiming with a loud voice, who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof.

3. And no man in heaven nor in earth, nor in under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon

4. And I wept much because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.

5. And one of the elders saith unto me, weep not, behold the lion of the tribe of Juda, the root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

O, the solemnity God has placed around the sealed book of Revelation. Rev. 1:3 "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things that are written therein: for the time is at hand." Ps. 138:2 "Thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name." John is much grieved because of the unworthiness of every one of our fallen race; whoever have been or ever shall be on this earth. But he is informed that there is a mighty one who is worthy in every way, to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. We need not expect any more Revelation from heaven because the word of God is finished, and all people are commanded not to add to it, or to take from it.

We learn from all this what a highly privileged people those are to whom the Lord openeth this little book, and giveth unto them the light of

his spirit; so that they may not only read and understand this little book, but also all that the prophets have written. The Lord saith, Rev. 10:7, "As he hath declared to his servants the prophets." So that in order to understand this book, we must search the other scriptures. John was extremely anxious to know what was in the book, and Daniel too, when the Revelation was given to him, was anxious. But it was said unto him, Dan. 12, 9:10, "Go thy way Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Many shall be purified and made white, and tried, but the wicked shall do wickedly, and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand."

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6. And I beheld, and lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

"A Lamb slain." In this verse we have our Lord and Saviour brought before our minds, as our great High Priest, and the great sacrifice he offered to God to satisfy divine justice for all the sins of all his people. John 1:29, "John seeth Jesus coming unto him and saith, behold, the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world" and as our great king, seven horns, setting forth his kingly power. Rev. 19:12, "On his head were many crowns." Luke 1:69, "Hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David." The seven spirits of God setteth forth his prophetical office, revealing to us by his word and spirit, the will of God for our salvation.

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7. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.

8. And when he had taken the book, the four beasts, and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.

John saw in a vision the transaction mentioned in the first verse of this book,the revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave unto him,the beasts and elders fall down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps. This is true instrumental music, it is the heart which God requireth, their hearts were all tuned up by the Holy Spirit of God, to sing the new song.

"Golden vials full of odours which are the prayers of the saints."

This showeth that God keepeth the prayers of his people, as it were in golden vials, and that they are available when the time cometh. Just think of the crying to God in prayer that he would rule over he nations and make them to become the kingdoms of our Lord and his Christ.

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9. And they sung a new song, saying thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof; for thou wast slain, and has redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nations.

They sing a new song, the old song, sung by the followers of Moses' and which was sung by Christ and his Apostles,doth truely become a new song to people who have been taught as we have been, that the Psalms came from the mind of David, which is nothing short of false teaching, Christ and his Apostles did not say so. Christ saith, Ps. 22:16, "They pierced my hands and feet." Ps. 69:21, "They gave me also gall for my meat, and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink." Ps. 16, 10.11, "For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thy holy one to see corruption. Thou wilt shew me the path of life, in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

Those beasts and elders are gathered from all parts of the earth. Luke 13:29, "They shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the Kingdom of God."

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10. And hast made us unto our God, Kings and Priests, and we shall reign on the earth.

They have tremendous authority, although they are only bond servants; if a servant doeth his work exactly in accord with the will of his master, it is then done with the same authority as if the master were personally sitting on the throne and doing the work himself. God is just at the point of raising his witnesses to spiritual life. The first work that these four and twenty elders have to perform is to sound the three woe trumpets, and all people who will hear and obey, will save themselves from the wrath of the Lamb; but all those who will not obey, will bring upon themselves the fearful destruction recorded in this little book.

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11. And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many Angels round about the throne, and the beasts and the elders, and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands.

The Angels of Glory do visit our earth according to the word of God. "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation." Almost the same words are used in the book of Daniel in regard to this great event, as is here in this eleventh verse. And in Joel 2:31, it is called, "The great and the terrible day of the Lord"

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12. Saying with a loud voice, worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory and blessing.

The holy Angels do worship and adore our Lord in his human nature, Heb. 1:6, "When he bringeth the first begotten into the world, he saith, and let all the Angels of God worship him."

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13. And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever.

Those creatures are God's living creatues, who have been created in Christ Jesus, born again, all of them who are in heaven and on the earth, and under the earth, and in the sea, or in other words living among the wicked. It will indeed be a time of great joy, and gratitude to God, when our Lord and Master takes this little book, and makes it plain to all his saints, and set rulers and teachers over them who will do everything in exact accord with the word of God. It is quite evident that there is dismal darkness over the earth in the matter of ruling and teaching in the churches at this present time.

All the way from people who say, that there should be no ordination, to those who claim that by their ordination they are exhalted so high and to such tremendous power, that they can send men to heaven or hell at their pleasure and not only that , but after men are dead they claim to be able to take them from a place of torment into a place of happiness. If men had good sight and could see well, they would all see alike. But the time is not far distant when God will give to his saints, a sevenfold portion of his Holy Spirit, and will bind Satan and shut him up for a thousand years, which will make a great change in these matters.

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14. And the four beasts said Amen, and the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

These four beasts are the rulers over the nations and these four and twenty elders are the rulers and teachers in the churches,all through the millennial period. It is my humble opinion that even the very best of the Protestant teachers have made a gap between teaching and ruling elders, that is not borne out by the word of God. The four and twenty elders seated around the throne seem to be all alike. Our Lord and Master most certainly does warn us against having high officials in the church. Mat. 23, 8:12, "Be ye not called Rabbi,for one is your master even Christ; and all ye are brethren. And call no one your Father upon the earth; for one is your Father which is in heaven. Neither be ye called Masters; for one is your Master even Christ. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." In the epistle to Timothy and to Titus, God gives rules to guide us in choosing and ordaining men to be office-bearers in the church. Titus 1, 5:8 "For this cause I left thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee: if any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. For a Bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; but a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

There is not one word in this rule that would lead me to think, that we should have two different kinds of elders, but it does teach, that elder and Bishop is one, and the same office; because the words are interchanged and applied to the office. If I understand this rule right, the ordaining is all alike and then after they are chosen and ordained they divide the official work and give to each one his part of the work, to which he is best suited. Titus, I suppose, would go to places where the true gospel had been preached, and the people had undergone a complete change and had turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God. And those people and he would choose the men who were to be their elders or Bishops, not young lads, who had got great education, but men who had faithful children. Now I do not say that education is not needed, because our Lord taught his twelve Apostles, but after all, it is quite evident, that the kind of education they got was not much like the education we get from men. Acts 4:13, "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and took knowledge of them that they had been with Jesus." It is God and he alone who can qualify men to do the work of elders or Bishops, and if we want to get his blessing we must follow his rules. Titus would then ordain as many among these people as was needed to do the work; each one would be alloted the official work for which he was best suited, but all would be on a perfect level. Rom. 12, 4:8, "For as we have many members in one body,and all members have not the same office so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members of

one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us whither prophecy, let us prophecy according to the proportion of faith. Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering; or he that teacheth, on teaching; or he that exorteth, on exortation; he that giveth, let him do with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness." The time is near at hand when the servants of the Most High God will be given spiritual light so great, that they will be able to do all these things according to the word of God.

In chapters six, seven, and eight, our Lord Jesus Christ makes known to us, the seven different subjects contained in the seven seals of this little book of Revelation. In the first four seals is contained all that is written about all the rulers, and teachers, and lawmakers, over both church and state, both good rulers and bad, both true teachers and false. Under the fifth seal is about those who were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held. Under the six seal is all that is recorded concering the churches, both good churhes and bad. Under the seventh seal, we have all that is written about those who bear true witness, to all the truths of God's word, or in other words, those who sound the trumpets warning all people who do not believe the word of God.

CHAPTER 6

1. And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, come and see.

2. And I saw, and behold a white horse; and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him; and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

It is a very important matter to get the true meaning of the word "horses" in order to have an understanding of some parts of this little book. Horses are used in this book as an emblem of all the rulers, teachers and lawmakers, both good and bad, in all the churches and all the nations of the earth. In the ninth chapter we have two hundred million horses brought before our minds, they have heads like lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. This fire is an evil spirit, the smoke is false doctrines and wrong laws, the brimstone is eternal punishment. Horses in scripture are an emblem of mighty power. Job 39:19, "Hast thou given the horse his strength ? Hast thou clothed his neck with thunder ?" White is an emblem of purity. Dan. 12:10, "Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried." The Lord himself is the rider here on the white horse. What is written in the forty fifth Psalms about our great King, opens up the meaning of this place beautifully. Ps. 45, 3:7, "Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O most mighty, with thy glory. And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee

terrible things. Thine arrows are sharp in the heart of the King's enemies; whereby the people fall under thee. Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy Kingdom is a right sceptre. Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows."

The mighty power of the great King teacheth terrible things, his arrows do pierce the hearts of his enemies.

"A crown was given unto him." Who was it that crowned him King ? O, the little downtrodden church of Smyrna. All through the dark ages she had no King but Jesus, who wore the crown of thorns, and because of her fealty to him, many had to lay down their lives. But the time is coming at no great distant day, when he will ride forth on his white horse and be crowned with many crowns. Rev. 19: 11-12, "Behold a white horse, and he that sat on him was called faithful and true, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns."

While he is pouring out the vials of his wrath on the wicked, and filling his children with a sevenfold portion of his Holy Spirit, they will gather round him in millions, and will crown him with many crowns.

"And he went forth conquering and to conquer." Heb. 10, 12:13, "But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God; from henceforth expecting, till his enemies be made his footstool."

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3. And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, come and see.

4. And there went out another horse that was red, and power was given to him that sat thereon, to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another; and there was given unto him a great sword.

The red horse is a symbol of the governments, and churches, and teachers, and lawmakers, who persecuted the true people of God, red with the blood of the saints. First under the Jews, second under the Pagon Roman government, third by the church of Rome, and fourth by the English in Scotland.

"The second beast saith, come and see." Those four beasts have work to do yet, because the blood of the martyrs hath not yet been avenged, because the persecution is not all over. The saints must be killed, because they will not worship the image of the beast. Rev. 19:2, "He hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand." This avenging of blood will take place at the time appointed.

5. And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, come and see; and I beheld; and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.
6. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say. A measure of wheat for a penny and three measures of barley for a penny, and see that thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

This horse is an emblem of all the rulers and teachers of our day. A black horse. All kinds of bribery and favour are esteemed very black, by God in his word, especially in rulers over the nations. If one half of what we read in the public press be true in regard to this, the rulers of our day are black. The rider had a pair of balances, this is ustice to all. Our rulers are allowing every man to worship God as they please and do protect them in their worship, they will even allow men to set up idol Gods for to worship.

"A measure of wheat for a penny and three measures of barley for a penny." This is food: the word of God is the bread and water of life. Mat. 4:4, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." This bread is now very cheap, of old the copies of it were few in number and men had to go to a public place to hear it read, but now it is so cheap that every person can have a copy, and read for themselves. But how will it be with us if we know not the will of God, nor obey his word. Heb. 2:3 "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation."

"See thou hurt not the oil and the wine." This is the holy spirit, the holy oil with which God anointed all his Prophets, Priests and Kings; the wine the good things wherewith he feedeth all his children even all the graces of the Holy Spirit, a fast of fat things of wines on the lees well refined. I would ask here is the great leading Spirit in religious circles, in our day the Holy Spirit ? He cannot be, because the Holy Spirit invariably leadeth men to follow the teaching of the word of God, whereas the great mass of the religious people, in our day pay very little regard to the word, but follow the inventions of men, whatsoever becometh fashionable.

"See thou hurt not the oil and the wine." The gift of the spirit is not hurt, but is as free to-day as when our Lord said, "If ye being evil know how to give good gifts unto your children how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him." But although the spirit is so free for the asking, yet I fear that those who have the spirit are few and far between; God says by their fruits ye shall know them; either I do not know fruit when I see it, or those who have the spirit are a very small number among my acquaintances. Luke 18:8 "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth ?"

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7. And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, come and see.

8. And I looked, and behold, a pale horse; and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth,to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

The rider on the pale horse hath a fearful name, Death; which meaneth eternal death. The color of the horse is (like Laodicea neither cold nor hot) neither white nor black, having a great outward show of good, but yet not in accord with the word of God, and so with their good they do not save souls, but their converts are like to those of the scribes and pharisees, twofold more the children of hell than themselves.

"Hell following." Yes. they deceive thousands and thousands, of poor blind creatures, and are the means of sending them to hell. "And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth." This is the great power to be in the hands of the wicked. When they get all their armies mustered they will have two hundred million horsemen, all fit to go to war and fight against Michael or Christ and his Angels.

"To kill with the sword." This is the strong arm of the law; they will kill the saints because they will not worship the image of the beasts.

"And with hunger." They will starve poor hungry souls to death with their husks, but God will seek out all his own children from among them, and bring them to their Father's house.

"And with the beasts of the earth." This is other wicked nations. They stir them up to help to exterminate the saints.

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9. And when he had opened the fifth seal I saw under the altar the souls of them that where slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held.

10. And they cried with a loud voice, saying, how long O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood, on them that dwell on the earth.

11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren,that they should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

This seal revealeth the avenging of the blood of the martyrs of Jesus, and teacheth plainly that there is a time in the future when the saints shall be put to death, and it also teacheth that the blood shall be avenged; we have an account of the avenging of their blood in Rev. 18:24 "And in her was found the blood of Prophets, and of Saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth." And then the Saints who remain here do rejoice and

give glory to God. Rev. 19: 1-2 "Salvation, and glory, and honor, and power unto the Lord our God; for true and righteousness are his judgments; for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand."

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12. And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal,and lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood.

13. And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

This seal opened showeth dismal spiritual darkness, and the wrath of God against such inexcusable darkness, seeing that we have bibles so plentiful, and the Holy Spirit offered by the Lord for the asking, what excuse will we make when called upon to give an account of our stewardship. But the great majority do claim that they are rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing. While God saith, "They are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked."

An earthquake; showeth the wrath of God. Is. 29:6 "Thou shalt be visited of the Lord of hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise, with storm and with tempest, and the flame of devouring fire." Zec. 14: 5 "Ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzzia King of Judah." This is a prophecy of this seal opened.

Surely the stars, or Angels, or Ministers of the Churches are fallen from where they were, in heavenly places in Christ, when they would go about to criticise the word of the most High and Almighty God, and they have darkened the spiritual sun, even the sun of righteousness who ariseth with healing in his wings, and made it as black as sackcloth of hair, with the smoke, the fire, and the brimstone which doth issue out of their mouths. Jam. 3: 5-6 "The tongue is a little member and boasteth great things. Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth; and the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity; so is the tongue among our members that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell."

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14. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together.

This heaven has become a wicked heaven, like the heaven before the flood. II Pet. 3: 5-6 "The heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water. Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished." We are informed in the 2nd epistle of Peter that this world in which we now live, will be burned.

II Pet. 3: 12 "The coming of the day of God, wherein the heaven being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat."

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14. And every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

These are the national boundaries. The first time isles are mentioned in the bible does make this plain. Gen. 10: 5 "By these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands; every one after his tongue, after their families, in their nations." Every person may see this movement; see how the boundaries of the nations are being changed at this present time. Now, do, let us poor people, take particular notice how close we are to the great terror mentioned in the following verses, it seems to be the very next thing which will take place. Will any of us see it ? We are informed further on that the mountains and islands will all be taken away. This is when Christ will take the ruling power and give it unto the saints. Rev. 16: 20 "And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found."

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15. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bond man, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains.

16. And said to the mountains and rocks, fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb;

17. For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand.

Our Lord speaks of this terror in Luke 21: 25-27 "And there shall be signs in the sun and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth; for the powers of heaven shall be shaken; and then shall they see the son of man coming in a cloud, with power and great glory." He speaks to his own children in the 28th verse "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

1. And after these things I saw four Angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth; that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

2. And I saw another Angel ascending from the east having the seal of the living God; and he cried with a loud voice to the four Angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea.

3. Saying hurt not the earth, neither the sea nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.

4. And I heard the number of them which were sealed;and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

5. Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand, and so on all the tribes to the end of verse 8

9. After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes and palms in their hands.

10. And cried with a loud voice, saying, salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne and unto the Lamb.

11. And all the Angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces and worshipped God.

12. Saying, Amen, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God forever and ever. Amen.

13. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, what are these which are arrayed in white robes. ? And whence came they ?

14. And I said unto him, sir, thou knowest And he said to me, these are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white, in the blood of the Lamb.

15. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

These four Angels are they, who will put into execution the threatnings of God, and will cause all the terror which will come on all men, only the hundred and forty four thousand sealed ones.

We see by this that the Angel of the wrath of God are now standing as it were ready to destroy; but God will not destroy the righteous with the wicked; and more, he will give warning to those evil churches before destroying them.

This sealing, what is it ? The Holy Spirit, even a seven fold portion. Eph. 1:13 "In whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise." It is called, Rev. 14: 1 "His Father's name written in their foreheads."

I have heard it said in conversing on this part of the word, that the Jewish nation would become the first fruits of the millennial church. It is a mistaken idea. Those sealed ones are the true Israel of God, gathered out of the nations and churches. He will take some of his Kings to sit on his throne, out from even the Laodicean Church, which will before long be the second beast, with two horns like a Lamb, who doeth great wonders,so that he maketh fire to come down from heaven to the earth in the sight of men,and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; or in other words with the approval of the beasts. This sealing is raising the descendants of the church of Philadelphia to spiritual life again.

Christ will take those who overcome in her and make them pillars in his temple. Rev. 5: 10 "And hast made us unto our God, Kings and Priests; and we shall reign on the earth." When the Jewish nation are converted and taken to their own land, the millennium will be in its glory. Is. 66: 19-20 "To the Isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory, and they shall declare my glory among the gentiles. And they shall bring all your brethren, for an offering unto the Lord out of all nations, upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules and upon swift beasts to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the Lord, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the Lord."

We see by this that it is the gentiles who will bring them to their own land.

Some imagine that this is the mansions of glory. This too is a mistake, it is what takes place after the first fruits. It is the beginning of the millennial church. But a good picture of the mansions of glory. When this takes place, the vials of God's wrath will have been poured out, the three woe trumpets will then have been sounded, and this great multitude will have taken warning, and will have fled for refuge to the hope set before them.

This same thing is mentioned in a number of places in the prophets. Is. 54: 1 "Sing O barren thou that dist not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child; for more are the children of the desolate, than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord." See all through this chapter.

"They stood before the throne." They become believers on Christ and are cleansed from their sins by his blood; and are justified by him who sitteth on the throne; and before the Lamb, "clothed in white robes;" even the righteousness of Christ, "and palms in their hands," this denotes victory, and certainly it is a great victory. When we think of all the trouble they will then have come through.

At the sounding of the fifth trumpet we find them in the smoke that

came out of the bottomless pit. What is this smoke ? It is everything in religious matters not in accord with the word of God. At that time God looks on them in pity and love. Rev. 9:6 "And in those days, will men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them." No, God will not let them die eternally. The poor creatures really think that the smoke is the real thing to take them to the mansions of glory. But if God had not plucked them as brands from the burning, the smoke would have taken them to the second death. And the poor creatures will keep on following those false teachers, until they, the false teachers, are taken and cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone, then God opens their eyes, then they see how they have been deceived, but O the trouble they will have come through before this will have taken place. "The beginnings of sorrows" in Mark 13: 8. "The great terror" in Rev. 6: 15-16, "All the vials of the wrath of God" in the sixteenth chapter. "And at last their fellow church people cast alive into the lake of fire." Rev. 19: 20.

They are a glad people, and have good reason to be glad, to think that all their leaders, and lawmakers, and teachers have gone to the second death; and that they have before them an eternity of pleasure, love joy and happiness.

These are the holy Angels. Whither they will come to our earth and sing their song of praise, or remain in the mansions of glory, I know not, one thing I know that there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repents, and it is beyond what we can imagine, what joy there will be when such a great host do turn to the Lord; the distance from earth to heaven is nothing to God, and very little to the holy Angels, and it was easy for God to let John see them in a vision, in any place. God has before these great company have been gathered around his throne, or while they were being gathered, he poured the vials of his wrath on the two beasts mentioned in the thirteenth chapter of this book. And we see by the song of the Angels that they acquiesce in their destruction, they say both at the first and at he end of their song, AMEN.

When God makes a people holy he dwells among them. Exod. 29: 45 "And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will be their God."

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16. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them nor any heat.

Blessed are they who do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled. Ps. 121:6 "The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night."

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17. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

Ps. 23: 2 "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters.

The followers of the Lamb have been clothed in sackcloth for long, and have many times wept for their dead, who were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held. But when this time comes, they will weep no more. Is. 65: 19 "I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people, and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard, nor the voice of crying."

CHAPTER 8

1. And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.

2. And I saw the seven Angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.

Seemingly the beginning of this half hour was when the Emperor of Rome embraced christianity and it lasted until the Roman Church began to persecute. And now again before the three woe trumpets are sounded, there is silence, because the witnesses are dead, and find little or no fault with those who think themselves rich and increased with goods.

We are now come to the seventh and last seal; in this seal is revealed all which is said in this little book concerning true witness bearing, that is sounding the trumpets, when the trumpet is sounded what should the people do? It depends on what kind of a sound is made, if it should be an alarm for a right war, they should prepare for war. Num. 10: 9 "If ye go to war in your land against the enemy that oppresseth you, then ye shall blow an alarm with the trumpets;and ye shall be remembered before the Lord your God, and ye shall be saved from your enemies." But if the people have mixed their own things, with the word of God, and if he sends his priests to sound the alarm, then the people should take warning, and turn to the word of the Lord, as he did advise the church of Laodicea. But if they will not hear, but follow their own inventions, and still have no confidence in the word; God then leaveth them in the hand of Satan, and often giveth them long time, and leaveth them without excuse, and often they bring on themselves not only punishment in this world, but eternal ruin.

Jer. 6:16-19 "Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls, but they said we will not walk therein. Also I set watchmen over you, saying harken to the sound of the trumpet, but they said we will not harken. Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. Hear, O earth; behold I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruits of their thoughts, because they have not harkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it."

3. And another Angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censor, and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints, upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

4. And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the Angel's hand.

This Angel is our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He is our great High Priest, his divine nature is the golden altar. Heb. 13:10 "We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle." Those who make altars sin fearfully against God. We are not allowed to bring anything out of the Old Testament worship into the New, only what was brought in by Christ and his Apostles. See Chap. 15 of Acts:"There was given unto him much incense." This is his intercession, pleading the great suffering he did endure for our sins. Is. 53:10 "Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he had put him to grief." He pleads his sufferings, and offers them along with our prayers, so that we may escape punishment and be taken into favour with God.

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5. And the Angel took the censor and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth; and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings and an earthquake.

This fire is the holy spirit. Acts 2:3 "And there appeared unto them cloven tongues as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost." The voices and thunderings etc. is God's holy law, and gospel, declared by his faithful servants. Acts 13:41 "Behold ye despisers, and wonder, and perish; for I work a work in your day, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you.

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6. And the seven Angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

How do they prepare ? By making themselves well acquaint with the word of God, so that they will know the difference between, true riches, and the riches of those who think they are rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing, while they are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.

Before any man can rightly understand the word of God, he must have the spirit of God. I Cor. 2:14 "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." So that God and he only, can prepare a man to sound the trumpets.

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7. The first Angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth, and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.

This trumpet was sounded at the time when the church of Rome embraced the popular religion of the Roman Emperors when they brought their heathenism, and Judaism into the church. The hail is God being angry with them, and his anger remains to this day, for he gave them twelve hundred and sixty years, so that his anger will soon be put into execution. The fire is the old dragon who gave him his power and his seat, and his great authority. Mingled with blood, this is the blood of the martyrs of Jesus, which have not yet been avenged. The trees, and grass are the food, all the food for the support of our bodies springs out of the earth. The Spiritual food, which is the word of God, was greatly destroyed by the Roman Church.

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8. And the second Angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire, was cast into the sea; and the third part of the sea became blood.
9. And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed.

This mountain is the great church of Rome. The fire is the old dragon. The sea is the wicked heathen world. Is. 57:20 "The wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt." The blood is the blood of the martyrs, the third part of the wicked world became persecuters, and killed the third part of God's new born creatures. II Cor. 5:17 "If any man be in Christ he is a new creature." The third part of the ships were destroyed. The poor downtrodden saints could not go in ships and plant churches all around the sea shores, as Paul and Barnabas had done, but were driven up into the rocks and dens of the mountains. And the ships were occupied in carrying dainties, for the people of the great church of Rome. Rev. 18:17-19 "And every ship master, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, and cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, what city is like unto this great city, and they cast dust on their heads, and cried weeping and wailing, saying alas, alas, that great city, wherein was made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness; for in one hour is she made desolate."

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10. And the third Angel soundel, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters.

In this trumpet as in the others they are left in the power of the dragon. A great star, this star is the church of Rome. Burning as it were a lamp, this burning lamp is without doubt an evil spirit leading men on to destroy the word of God, which is the water of life. Jer. 2:13 "For my people have committed two great evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water."

11. And the name of the star is called wormwood; and the third part of the waters became wormwood: and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.

And it has been said by historians, that the church of Rome would not allow the common people to read the word of God until printing began, but after this they could not keep the word of God from the people; so they made a translation of their own, and put their own explanation on the word by affixing notes to it. And in the voice of the first trumpet when God looks at the way they pretended to teach his will to the people, he says, that the third part of the trees was burnt up, and all the green grass was burnt up. He does mean by the trees and grass the spiritual food. In his third trumpet he blames them for making the spiritual drink bitter. The way they made it bitter was because their notes did not give the true meaning and because they hold that the Pope's bulls are of equal authority with the word of God, therefore he says, the waters were made bitter. Now to think what a bitter portion these poor creatures will have to drink; even everlasting punishment. Rev 14:11 "And the smoke of their torment ascended up for ever and ever, &c." When John had eaten this little book, or in other words had got a good understanding of it, it was in his mouth sweet as honey;John had a great desire to under stand this little book when he wept much; but now he had gained his point. John was a man who had a great desire that men should be saved. And when he thought over all the dreadful things contained in this little book, it made his belly bitter. Now when it was so bitter to John, who was perfectly sure of his own eternal wellbeing, how dreadfully bitter will it be to all those poor deluded creatures, who have forsaken God, and his word, and have believed the teaching of this fallen star.

12. And the fourth Angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars, so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.

This trumpet was sounded at the time of the re formation, the darkness mentioned is, the dismal darkness in which the church of Rome was left; when the Lord did consume her with the spirit of his mouth. II Thes 2:3 "And then shall that wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming." At the sounding of the third trumpet, the great star which fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters, or in other words upon the third part of the word of God, was the means of many men dying the second death. And the church of Rome had become so desperately wicked outwardly, and openly, with their selling indulgencse, and a thousand other things, that the dragon himself did seem to have become ashamed of them: but at the sounding of the fourth Angel a great change took place, at least on many thousands of the people, but O the dismal darkness in which those who still adhered to that great system of iniquity; the sun, and the moon, and the stars were smitten.

And the third part of the day, and the third part of the night was darkened. The dragon is exceedingly cunning, for ever since the reformation, he has put it into their minds to keep their wickedness hid from the eyes of men; we do not now hear a word about them selling indulgences as they did in the days of Luther. And in some things they are making a great show of good, but their spiritual darkness is greater than ever, because when God gives men such faithful warning as he gave them, in the days of the reformation, and they take not warning, God leaves them in their fate. Ez. 33:4-5 "Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come and take him away his blood shall be upon his own head. He heard the sound of the trumpet and took not warning, his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul." Many millions of those who took warning at the sounding of the fourth trumpet, got great spiritual light, they had light in all their dwellings.

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13. And I beheld, and heard, an Angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitors of the earth, by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three Angels, which are yet to sound.

Why are those three trumpets more dreadful than the other four ? Because as soon as they are sounded, the punishment. takes place. Rev. 3:3 "If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee." I Thes. 5:3 "For when they shall say, peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape." In this place is pointed out the very day in which we live, it is a very important matter for us to know what God says about our own day, and to know whether God is pleased, or angry with us, reading all through the bible, any person might see that every departure from the word of God no matter how trifling it may appear, or how much good people may imagine they can do, by trying some plan of their own, yet God is angry, especially if it be in religious matters. Isaiah 29:13-14 "Wherefore the Lord said, for as much as this people draw near me with their mouth,and with their lips do honor me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men,therefore,behold I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder; for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish; and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid." We are now come to the fifth Angel sounding the first of the three woe trumpets, which are yet to be sounded in the future, we may see by looking at the way in which God has dealt with those who were warned, by the four trumpets which have been sounded in times gone by, that it is very dangerous to not take warning, and turn to the word of God, and be obedient to him. Those who did not take warning and kept on in their own way, were left in the hand of Satan, who helped them to make a fair outward

show, and thereby have deceived all men, and the whole world are now wondering after them. Rev. 13:3-4 "And all the world wondered after the beast, and they worshipped the dragon, which gave power unto the beast and they worshipped the beast,saying,who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him ?" "And all that dwell on the earth shall worship him whose names are not written in the book of life, of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." It is quite evident that for many generations very few did take warning, and at the time the fourth Angel sounded they had got so wicked outwardly and openly, that men could see their wickedness, without any light from the word and spirit of God, and when the fourth Angel sounded, men left them in thousands, and joined in with the servants of the most high God,the servants who did sound the trumpets, but since the sounding of the fourth Angel, they have kept much of their wickedness hid from the eyes of men, and now in all countries men are sounding their praise. But the three Angels which are yet to sound, are not so much to warn the church of Rome, her warnings were mostly contained in the sounding of the first four Angels, but the three woe trumpets are mostly to warn the protestant churches, because there are only a very small number who are following the teaching of the word of God, and they are said to be spiritually dead. Rev. 11:8 "And their dead bodies shall lie in the streets of the great city etc" Now let us protestants take warning;we have a great show of outward good,but most certainly the majority,who claim to be protestants do deny some part of the word of God to be true, and many are very little short of being as far away from the teaching of the word of God, as the services of the church of Rome are.

But let us protestants now look to our own ways, because God will soon raise up faithful witnesses, who will be able to point out to us our sins, in not following the teaching of the word of God, some things we' are doing, which are so glaringly wrong, that a person would think that even Satan himself is ashamed of his work, if we would judge by the way some of his followers talk about it. Take for example the ways and means many do take to raise money for religious purposes. God loves the cheerful giver, and if it is draw from people by any other means whatsoever only the person giving it cheerfully to God, it is sin;and hateful to the Almighty,even if apparently holy women,form an Assoc. to coax more than is cheerfully given, it is wrong. This is only one thing, we might write many pages showing up other things; now let us look at what God says to us by the voice of the trumpet of the fifth Angel.

CHAPTER 9

1. And the fifth Angel sounded,and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth; and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

This star is the protestant churches. In the thirteenth chapter these churches are called a beast coming up out of the earth; this beast had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. Rev. 13:13-14 "And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast." In the nineteenth chapter he is called the false prophet that wrought miracles before the beast. Rev. 19:20 "And the beast was taken and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone." All this doth show very plainly, what a dismal state the protestant churches are in, when God sends his two witnesses to give them warning, by the fifth Angel sounding the trumpet. And to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. What is the bottomless pit ? We can know what it is by the last part of the seventeenth verse of this chapter, it is the mouths of the two hundred million horses, or in other words the mouths of all the rulers and teachers in these churches, and in the nations, not in accord with the word of God.

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2. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air was darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

There is so much of their teaching which is false, that the spiritual heavens are darkened. And truely they have created darkness, because thousands, yes millions, of poor creatures who do not know their bibles as well as they should, are led to believe, that they are pleasing God, while they are making him angry, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

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3. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth; and unto them was given power, as the scorpians of the earth have power.

These locusts are the Press men; locusts were among the clean beasts which the Israelites could eat, and the Press would be a great blessing to us, if all which they write was in accord with the word of God, but in this trumpet God says hard things against them, they come out of the smoke, their writings are very dark if we compare them with the word of God; even in the very best of religious periodicals there are pieces printed in them, which does mar them greatly, as far as I know them. Power as scorpians have power. Scorpians does mean evil spirits;so that our scribes are of the same kind, as those who wrote in the days of our Lord and Saviour. Mat. 23:27 "Woe unto you scribes and pharisees hypocrites; for ye are like unto whited sepulchres; which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but within are full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Verse 33, Ye serpents, ye generations of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of

hell. Scorpians, serpents, and vipers, are all evil spirits, so that what God says here by calling them scorpians, is that their power is from the evil spirit.

4. And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

The grass, the green things, and the trees are the food; the word of God which is the bread and water of life; is not hurt by coming through the press; neither are good books; periodicals too,would be excellent food, if they were written in exact accord with the word of God, and kept clear from the smoke of the pit; but they are so badly spoiled with the smoke, that they are mostly very unwholesome food. It was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass, etc. We see by this that God has power over men, who are led by Satan, and that he will take care of his own word. Ps. 12:6-7, "The words of the Lord are pure words; as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever." Only those men who have not the seal of God in their foreheads. If any person were to tell the press men that they and those who follow their teaching are badly hurt by what they write in their papers, they would not at all take it in for truth, but when God will speak to them by the mouth of his sealed ones, they will count that they are badly hurt, and tormented, by those who sound the trumpet.

5. And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months; and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.

God says here that the press men will not kill his sealed ones, when they are sent to sound the trumpet; this is one great thing God will do for them, he will not leave them so much to themselves, and to Satan, that they will put to death his faithful servants, whom he will send to warn them. Tormented five months, etc. A day for a year, would be one hundred and fifty years, whereby God holds that they do torment themselves by hurting their own conscience and by depriving themselves of all the joy and peace they would have by following the teaching of the word of God. Their torment as the torment of a scorpion. God's faithful witnesses have always been a torment to devils, and to men who are led by devils. Mat. 8:28-29 "And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. And, behold, they cried out, saying, what have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou son of God ? Art thou come to torment us before the time ? Rev. 11:10 "Because these two prophets tormented them that dwell on the earth."

6. And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.

God has many of his lost sheep, among these poor deluded creatures, and although they stick tenaciously to those who are trying to make them believe, that they will be safe for heaven, if they will only use all those means for salvation, which have been invented by men and women, even by Nicolaitanes and Jezebels. But when God pours out the vials of his wrath upon those deceivers;his own lost sheep will then see what poor deluded creatures they have been, and will turn to the Lord and live. Ps. 22:27 "All ends of the world shall remember; and turn unto the Lord; and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee."

7. And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle;and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold and their faces were as the faces of men.

Horses all through the bible are closely connected with kings, and in this little book are taken to be a picture of government; or in other words lawmakers or teachers. Christ riding on his white horse showeth forth his power in the church, and in the state. And the as it were crowns of gold, sets forth their kingly power. The press in our day has great power; men are guided how to vote by the press, and when a war takes place, the press can almost dictate whether it shall be gone into or abandoned. "Faces as the faces of men." Although God has here likened them unto locusts, yet their faces are not like the face of a beast, they often show great wisdom, although they have departed greatly from true and heavenly wisdom.

Jer. 8:8-9 "How do ye say, we are wise, and the law of the Lord is with us ? Lo, certainly in vain made he it; the pen of the scribe is in vain. The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken; lo, they have rejected the word of the Lord; and what wisdom is in them ?

8. And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions

Hair was given unto women for an ornament, and for a covering. The press men do teach etiquette, in order to adorn the ladies, but the etiquette of the bible is seldom if ever touched upon. I Pet. 3:3-4 "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, or of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price." Their teeth as of lions; their false teaching is more dangerous by far than the teeth of lions.

9. And they had breast plates, as it were breast plates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle.

Their breastplates as of iron. We will suppose they are teaching wrong on some point, that is contrary to the Word. Write your letter to them, or in other words shoot at them with your arrow, and point it up with the very point of the sharp two edged word, knowing that the "word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." And your arrow, although it will strike them fair in the breast and should pierce their heart,yet it falls into their waste paper basket as a feather, and they will come out the next day stronger than ever against the plain teaching of scripture. The sound of their wings, our railway trains are their wings, and do sound like chariots of many horses.

10. And they had tails like unto Scorpions, and there were stings in their tails ; and their power was to hurt men five months.

Their tails are their spiritual teachers, or writers. They are like the scribes of old, a generation of serpents and vipers. Is. 9:15, "The ancient and honorable he is the head, and the prophet that teacheth lies he is the tail." Their power was to hurt men five months. We must all acknowledge that the press does do some good, but much of their religious teaching is not from the word of God, and does do hurt to men. At most, their time while they hurt is one hundred and fifty years.

11. And they had a king over them which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.

The angel of the bottomless pit is the old dragon himself. The meaning of the names in Hebrew and Greek is destroyer. God has not made any exception here; is it so that all the pressmen are under this one king?

12. One woe is past ; and behold there came two woes more hereafter.

13. And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God.

14. Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.

A voice. This voice is from the great ruling power of our Lord Jesus Christ. The river Euphrates as it is used here has reference to the Babalonyish captivity. It does mean all the great powers who persecuted

the people of God from Nebuchadnezzer to the beginning of the millennial period. The poor Jews spent their seventy years between the branches and in the bends of this river. The church of Rome is called Babylon ; and the great river would embrance all the powers which did oppress the people of God through all that seventy years; so that when it is used here, it would not anly meen the church of Rome, but all those protestant nations who will yet persecute God's children. The four angels are those four dreadful threatenings made by God against those four churches who had left the teaching of his word, and had brought their own things into their churches; Pergaomos, I will fight against them with the sword of my mouth ; Thyatira, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. And I will kill her children with death. Sardis, If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. Laodicea. I will spue thee out of my mouth.

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15. And the four angels were loosed which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men."

We see by this that Christ will put his threatenings into execution at the sounding of this trumpet. The times mentioned to put the four threatenings into execution differ in duration greatly.

If a day means a year, as it does in many of the prophesies, one hour would mean fifteen days. Rev. 10:6-7, "Christ maketh oath and saith that there should be time no longer. But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets." So that the destruction of the church of Rome will be very sudden at the last. Rev. 18:21, "And a mighty angel took up a stone as a millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, thus with violence shall that great city Babylon, be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all."

A day is the next time mentioned; which would be one year from thee sounding of the sixth trumpet, to the finishing up of the great system of iniquity.

The next is a month, which would be thirty years from the sounding of the fifth trumpet. This thirty years does reach to the time when the dragon will be bound for a thousand years. The last time mentioned is a year, which would be three hundred and sixty years from the sounding of the fourth trumpet, which was at the reformation; to the time when great Babylon will be thrown down with violence.

"For to slay the third part of men." This slaying does mean, both temporal and eternal death; for while this trumpet is being sounded, God will pour out the seven vials of his wrath on the wicked. "For in them is filled up the wrath of God." And in the last of Chapter 14, "Cast into the great winepress of the wrath of God." And also eternal death. Rev. 14:11,"And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever, etc.

16. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand : and I heard the number of them."

What a great army of men is brought before our minds in this place. Two hundred million, and these are all teachers and rulers of the army. It does seem that this is the greatest number that ever have been mustered for war, but this is a spiritual war. Rev.12: 7-9, "And there was war in heaven ; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon ; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not ; Neither was their place found any more in heaven." And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the devil, and satan, which deceiveth the whole world ; he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

All these two hundred million are horsemen ; this does mean that they are all teachers and rulers of the army and are all well qualified to go into a spiritual war. They have religious associations of their own inventing, and office bearers and teachers not appointed by God in his word without number, and God hates the inventions of men. And they all pretend to be protestants. But nevertheless they are all worshippers of the beast. Rev. 13:8, "And all that dwelt upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."

17. And thus I saw the horses in the vision and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone, and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions ; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.

Horses in this case symbolize lawmakers, teachers and rulers. Those horses are like lions, exceedingly fierce, and cruel, and the time is coming before very long when they will kill the saints. Out of their mouths issued fire and smoke, and brimstone. The fire is the old dragon transformed into an angel of light, the smoke is all their plausible teaching not in accord with the word of God. The brimstone is the eternal ruin they bring upon themselves. Those who sit on the horses have breastplates of fire, and jacinth, and brimstone. They are proud of their breastplates. They imagine the fire is the holy spirit. Their doctrines are very precious in their own eyes, even like clear glistering stones, and the brimstone they take to be the mansions of glory, but poor creatures, it is everlasting punishment, for their many sins. Rev. 14:11, And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever.

18. By these three was the third part of men killed by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths.

We see by this that the third part of men are killed by the dragon and his servants. This must be eternal death. Rev. 14:10, And he shall

be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.

19. For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails ; for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads and with them they do hurt.

These horses are very like the old dragon. We have seen above what comes out of thir mouths. Their tails are their stars, or ministers, who pretend to explain the scriptures. But they are like their great leader, like serpents. Rev. 12:3, And there appeared another wonder in heaven ; and behold a great red dragon.

4. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven.

20. And the rest of the men, which were not killed by these plagues, yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood : which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk.

21. Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

They will not listen to warning, nor to any word of God ; until he pours the vials of his wrath upon them. And although they thought that they were pleasing God very well with their good things, yet we see by these verses that God counts them the very worst kind of idolators, and sinners.

But he has thoughts of mercy towards a great many of them, and will enable them to wash their robes, and make them white in the blood of the Lamb. This takes place at the sounding of the seventh trumpet, when the beast and the false phophet are cast into a lake of fire. Then they will be slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse which is the word of God. God will be as good to these, as he will yet in the future be to the Jews.

CHAPTER 10

1. And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud : and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire.

This is our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Matt. 24:30, "And they shall see the son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." At this coming he gathers his elect together, who are the first fruits of the Millennial Church.

"A rainbow on his head." He remembers his covenant, Ps. 105:8, "He hath remembered his covenant forever." His face as the sun. He is the sun of righteousness who ariseth with healing in his wings. His

feet as pillars of fire. His coming is beautiful to his own children, but to the wicked our God is a consuming fire.

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2. And he had in his hand a little book open ; and he set his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the earth.

This little book is the book of Revelation. The sea is the wicked heathen world. Rev. 13:1, "And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea." The earth is the civilized part of the world. Rev. 13:11, "And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth."

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3. And cried with a loud voice as when a lion roareth ; and when he cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.

His voice is his faithful preachers. This shows that they should speak out, and sound the trumpet. Their work is to give the people warning.

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4. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, and I was about to write ; and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.

John understood what the voices of the thunders said, but they are not given to us.

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5. And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven.

6. And sware by him that liveth forever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are,and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer.

7. But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

In this place we are taught, by our great King how to make an oath, and he also taught us the same thing, by his prophets of old. Dan. 12:7, "And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto Heaven, and sware by him that liveth forever, that it shall be for a time, times and an half."

Now I would ask, do all men when they swear, do so as they are taught in the word, if not how does it stand between them and their God ? This is a very serious matter, and it is quite certain that this is one of the

things that makes God angry ; and when they do swear do they always speak the truth. I have not been very much in courts of law, and it does make me wonder, when I remember, how often I have heard men say, "on their oath," things that I knew to be false. No wonder that God is angry.

Our Lord swear that there should be no time longer. But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished. What is the mystery of God ? It is that great system of iniquity, the church of Rome. God gave them twelve hundred and sixty years, from the sounding of the first trumpet. In Dan. 12:7, "The man clothed in linen swear that, it shall be for a time, times and an half." This man, is our Lord and Saviour, the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. Rev. 13:5, "And power was given unto him to continue forty and two months." We are taught that in prophecy a day sometimes means a year, and so it is in this case. Now the finishing up of this great system of iniquity, is by utter destruction, first by fire burning with brimstone ; and it is also plain to be seen, that the protestants who do not take warning, when the three trumpets shall be sounded for "them,, they too will be destroyed at the same time. This makes the four times mentioned at the sounding of the sixth trumpet, when God lets loose the four angels who shall put his four threats into execution. They were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month,and a year, for to slay the third part of men.

Our Lord maketh known to us, that at the beginning of the sounding of the seventh trumpet all those wicked churches, and governments will be destroyed. As he hath declared to his servants the prophets. We are directed by this declaration of our Lord and Master where to find the true meaning of the seven sealed book, even in his own holy word. I would say to all searchers who desire to have the true meaning do not search for it in profane history, it is so contradictory.

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8. And the voice which I heard from heaven, spake unto me again, and said, go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth.

9. And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, give me the little book, and he said unto me, take it and eat it up ; and it shall make thy belly bitter, and it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.

10. And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up ; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey ; and as soon as I had eaten it my belly was bitter.

John wept much when he first saw this little book, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. But now a thorough understanding of it is given to him and he has the same experience that every person will have who do get a good understanding of this little book ; because it requires such an amount of labor

to find the meaning of all those words which are figurative, and so much humility in depending altogether on Christ, to give light and understanding, for it is Christ, and he alone, who can open his little book. And when Christ is so good to any man, as to open this little book, it gives so much satisfaction, that it is to him sweet as honey. But oh, how bitter, when a man begins to consider the dreadful torments to be suffered by those poor creatures who will not hear the word of God, but keep on trusting in their own good things.

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11. And he said unto me thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.
Yes, his prophecy has come even to us.

CHAPTER 11.

1. And there was given me a reed, like unto a rod ; and the angel stood, saying, rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein.

This teacheth us that every true worshipper of God must be measured by the measuring reed, which is the word of God. Every true saint is the temple of God, and the temple must be built exactly,according to the pattern given by God. Exod. 25:8-9, "And let them make me a sanctuary ; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I show thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of the instruments thereof, even so when ye make them." I. Cor. 3:16, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you ? Rom. 8:9, "Now if any man have not the spirit of Christ, he is none of his."

It is the spirit of Christ in a man which makes him become the temple of God ; 2 Cor. 6:16, "For ye are the temple of the living God, as God hath said I will dwell in them and walk in them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Rev. 21:22, "And I saw no temple therein ; for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it." The altar had to be measured too, the altar is the divine nature of Christ ; it has to be measured so that we may know that we have the right altar ; and see that we do not go to work and make altars and thereby commit idolatry like those Gentiles who are not measured. Heb. 13:10, "We have an altar whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle."

We may see by this that faithful and true witnesses must be well qualified , or they are not true witnesses. They must be like Christ who came not to destroy men's lives but to save them, and they must be ready to lay down their lives for the testimony of Christ and for the word of God. Rev. 2:10, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

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2. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not ; for it is given unto the Gentiles ; and the holy city shall they tread underfoot forty and two months."

This is the other party, for there are two parties,one led by the Holy Spirit of God, and the other led in the power of the dragon, that old serpent called the devil and satan ; This party is called here the Gentiles, and the holy city shall they tread underfoot, forty and two months. We know by this that Gentiles here mean the church of Rome, because it is they who persecuted the true people of God for twelve hundred and sixty years, she and her daughters.

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3. And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and three score days clothed in sackcloth.

4. These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

5. And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies, and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

6. These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy, and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.

The two witnesses are they who are sent by God to sound the trumpets showing the people their sins, and teaching the way of salvation. They are troden under foot, and are mourners for twelve hundred and sixty years, mourning for their brethren who have been murdered. Mourning too,because the word of the Most High God is rejected, and despised; sorry to see so many people going down the broad road to destruction, without remedy, because they will not take warning.

Thy are anointed with his holy oil, even the holy spirit of God. They are the two candlesticks, his two churches, against whom he finds no fault ; Smyrna and Philadelphia.

This is wonderful power. Is there a people on earth who have this power ? And if any had it, would it be right for them to use it ? They have this power. God has made them commissioners, to teach to all people his laws, and to shew the people all the penalties of his laws, and to tell the people that he is a God of vengeance, and that he cannot let sin go unpunished, because his justice is infinite, and that all his creatures who have broken his law are condemned to be punished with eternal punishment. And to tell all people too, that he has provided a way of salvation, and to offer salvation to all people who hear the sound of their voice. Their chief business as witnesses is to give warning to all people who neglect to accept of this salvation, and to warn all who do not follow the teaching of the word of God, in order to be saved. Now the way these witnesses have this power, they do their work as God commands, and if people will not hear God puts the penalties of his laws into execution. These penalties are often extremely severe, especially if the offence has been in religious matters.

Ecc. 8:11, "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the hearts of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil." God gave the first beast twelve hundred and sixty years, after the sounding of the first trumpet. But according to many parts of the word of God the time will be very short from the sounding of the three woe trumpets until the punishment. That is if those who are warned pay no attention to the warning, but keep on disobeying the word of God.

They have power to smite the earth with all plagues as often as they will. The whole world is lying in wickedness, and they need to get warning at all times, but these who should be warning the people, are in some way or other so silent, at this present time, that those who are far away from the teaching ofhis word are not properly warned. But when God will raise up his two witnesses to spiritual life again, they will then speak out, even if it should cost them their life.

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7. And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit, shall make war against them, and shall overcome them and kill them.

This is a heart rending thing ; for all those who have spiritual light enough to see and know the truth, just to think that the churches which were so faithful not very long ago, are now following satan to such an extent that they are pronounced dead by the all wise God. O my dear and beloved brethren, do rouse up from your dead slumber, throw away everything that you have not a clear and plain warrant for in the word of God. Do not allow yourselves to appoint an officer of any kind, unless you know that God has commanded you to do so. Separate yourselves from all Balaams that is, men who will side with wrong doers, because they are men of wealth and influence, and do begin to cultivate the grace of love, by looking over all your doings, and if you can find anything wherein you have wronged another, own it up like faithful men and women. Separate yourselves from all Jezebels and Nicolaitanes of every kind. Lam. 4:2, "The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter."

Joel 2:15-17, "Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly; gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and these that suck the breast ; let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests and ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, spare thy people O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them ; wherefore should they say where is their God."

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8. And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom, and Egypt, where also our Lord was Crucified."

This is a complete description of our civilized world. It has become

like a great city. They can converse with each other in all parts in a few hours time. The three places mentioned, points out to us the character of the people as they appear in the eyes of the great God. Sodom, a place so outwardly wicked that God could not suffer them any longer. Egypt, a place of great learning,but great opressors,they too were destroyed greatly, where also our Lord was crucified. A place of dreadful hypocrisy, so much so that they were very near their destruction. Our world too is near a great destruction at present. Those who should be up witnessing to the truth are lying spiritually dead in this great city.

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9. And they of the people, and kindreds, and tongues, and nations, shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

10. And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another ; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.

All those people like to see them in this state, there is such a great contrast between these poor despised ones, and the other great religious bodies. These poor ones are so few in number, that it looks as if they would soon be extinct, and then they are so poor in the things of this world, that they can hardly support their minsters.

There is plenty of rejoicing over these poor ones, in some places at this present time, but it will not last long.

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11. And after three days and an half the spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

The time mentioned I suppose, will be like the forty and two months, a day for a year. When God gives them spiritual life they will then have more light than ever before. The light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold as the light of seven days. Great fear fell upon them which saw them. As soon as they are raised to spiritual life they will begin to sound the three woe trumpets, which will strike terror into the hearts of all those who are trusting in their own good things, because the punishment will come very soon after the warning.

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12. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, come up hither ; and they ascended up to heaven in a cloud ; and their enemies beheld them.

They will be a heavenly minded people. They will sit in heavenly places with Christ. Phil. 3:20, "For our conversation is in heaven ; from whence also we look for our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ." There will

be a goodly number of them, all faithful and true witnesses, like the cloud of witnesses whose example we must follow, especially their faith. Heb. 12:1, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

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13. And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand ; and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to God of heaven."

We see by this that God is very much displeased with his little flock for their deadness in spiritual things. He will slay the tenth part of them. Judgment begins at the house of God. I. Pet. 4:17, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God." And if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God ?

God will at this time make a complete separation between his own children and the men of the world. Ps. 101:8, "I will early destroy all the wicked of the land ; that I may cut off all wicked doers from the city of the Lord."

Seven thousand slain, the tenth part. There will be sixty-three thousand left. What a small number to begin the millennial church with. But they will be increased in a short time to one hundred and forty and four thousand ; the remnant gave glory to the God of heaven. Very unlike the wicked when God slew them ; they blasphemed, and repented not.

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14. The second woe is past ; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

If the times mentioned at the sounding of the sixth trumpet are a day for a year, and the way we apply them be right, the third woe will be of very short duration, only fifteen days.

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15. And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

We are now come to the trumpet concerning which our Lord sware that there should be time no longer ; but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets. This is not the end of the world as some think, but the end of those two great systems of iniquity, the church of Rome, and that great union of protestants

which maketh the second beast, in the thirteenth chapter of this little book. And there were great voices in heaven. The voices are the gladness of the servants of God, because they have got their own king to reign over them ; Heaven in the word of God has many meanings. In Is. 34:5, we have these words, "For my sword shall be bathed in heaven." And in 2 Pet. 3:12, are these words, "The heavens being on fire shall be dissolved.' We have quoted these two verses to show that some of the heavens are so wicked that God will destroy them.

The voices in heaven are from heavenly minded people ; a cloud of faithful witnesses, who have been raised up by God to sit in heavenly places. Eph. 1:3, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."

We should all dwell in heavenly places. In our families, our conversation should be mostly about heavenly things, about our great High Priest and what he is doing for us, but especially in our churches.

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16. And the four and twenty elders which sat before God on their seats fell upon their faces and worshipped God.

These are the office bearers in the house of God ; the men who sounded the trumpets, and were eye witnesses to the great destruction brought on all the wicked of the earth ; all the seven vials of the wrath of God,and at the last the blood of the martyrs avenged, and the beast and false prophet taken, and cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

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17. Saying, we give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come ; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

The millennium is at this time fairly begun, and the church of God is very glad, and thankful to God for all the great things he has done for them Christ has set up his government on the earth. Is. 52:8, "Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice ; with the voice together shall they sing ; for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion."

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18. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great ; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth."

Those nations which thought they were doing everything well, have now found out that God was angry with them, and that their not following the teaching of the word of God, has brought upon them their destruction, and the time of the dead that they should be judged, these are the martyrs of Jesus. Those angry nations are they who killed the saints. This is the killing which is yet in the future, mentioned at the opening of the

fifth seal, so that when this seventh trumpet is sounded, the time has come to avenge the blood. Rev. 18:24, "And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth."

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19. And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament ; and there were lightnings, and voices and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

There was seen in his temple the ark of the testament ; his saints are his temple. He writes his law in their hearts. Heb. 8:10, "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord ; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts ; and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people." The earthquake, and the hail, is the wrath of God, poured on his enemies. This is what takes place at the pouring out of the seventh vial of the wrath of God, into the air.

CHAPTER 12

1. And there appeared a great wonder in heaven ; a woman clothed with the sun and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars.

This chapter gives us a sight of the visible church from the days of the apostles down to the last persecution. She is clothed with the sun, or in other words with all the worship and ordinances instituted by Christ and his apostles ; and the moon under her feet ; this is the old testament worship and ordinances. They were a yoke which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear ; Christ's yoke is easy and his burden is light, by taking it upon us, we find rest unto our souls. But still we need the old testament. It is as a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star ariseth in our hearts. These wonders are said to be in heaven. The word heaven has many different meanings in the word of God ; some times good churches are meant, and some times false churches; In this chapter it is used as a mixture of very good and very evil. The stars in her crown are the twelve apostles of the lamb ; Christ set them on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. We are bound by their teachings and acts, whether we think so or not, and if we bring anything into the worship of God which was not practised by the apostles, we do it at our own peril : see the 15th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles.

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2. And she being with child cried travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.

The true people of God in the apostles' days and ever since, have had a great desire to have our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to be their king; and they have been crying to God ever since Christ went up to heaven, to bring about this grand event, and many of them have been much pained because of this thing ; especially in the times of persecution.

3. And there appeared another wonder in heaven ; and behold, a great red dragon, having seven heads, and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.

We are told in the ninth verse of this chapter who the dragon is..... And as to what is meant by seven heads ; he has crowns on them. This shows them to be kings; and if we look at the explanation given of this matter, in the seventeenth chapter of the Book of Revelation we find that they are the seven great powers which had authority over the whole civilized world, beginning with Nebuchadnezzar ; Rev. 17:10, "And there were seven kings ; five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come ; and when he cometh he must continue a short space ; his horns are all his weapons he uses. All his false doctrines, and lies.

4. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth ; and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

His tail are his false prophets who preach lies. It drew the third part of the stars of heaven. This was the time when the church of Rome began to follow the dragon at the sounding of all the four trumpets which have been sounded, to warn the church of Rome, and because they would not hear God left them in the dragon's hand, who destroyed the third part of everything that was good, and here the third part of the stars, or ministers, are cast to the earth. He is always ready to devour our dear king ; see how he killed all the children of Bethlehem, thinking to kill him as soon as he was born, and then he stirred up the scribes and pharisees who always sought his life.

5. And she brought forth a man-child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron ; and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.

We all know that he ascended to heaven. Eph. 1:20-22, "Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in heavenly places.

Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come. And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church." He will put his rod of iron into

the hand of the descendants of the church of Thyatira, who will break all those kingdoms like a potter's vessel.

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6. And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and three score days.

She had to dwell in the wilderness the same length of time that God gave the church of Rome to repent. The dragon had such a hatred to her, he and his followers, that she had to flee to the wilderness, she was fed there, yes she was fed with spiritual food, and ate the bread of life eternal.

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7. And there was war in heaven ; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon ; and the dragon fought and his angels.

It has been a long war. Ever since the Babylonish captivity to the present day, and will continue, more bitter than ever, until the time when the dragon will be bound, and cast into the bottomless pit, and shut up, and sealed, for a thousand years.

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8. And prevailed not ; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

He will be cast out of the church about a generation before the time when he will be bound, according to what our Lord says in the 24th chapter of Matt. Matt. 24:31, "And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." 34. "Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled." That is some of them will be here when the dragon is bound.

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9. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent,called the devil, and satan, which deceiveth the whole world ; he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

When God raises his witnesses to spiritual life, he will then take them so near to himself that satan will not be allowed to be in their church.

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10. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ ; for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

The war in this chapter is the same war which we read about in the

ninth chapter in this book. No wonder the little flock are glad when they through the strength and power of their beloved king do conquer an army of two hundred million horsemen. And their leader the great red dragon cast down, who does accuse them day and night, calling them heretics, a sect every where spoken against, hypocrites as he called Job, and troublers of Israel as he called Elijah.

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11. And they overcame him by the blood of the lamb and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

The blood of the lamb. O what a treasure, to be interested in his death and thereby be safe from the second death. We have good reason to obey his word, seeing he hath done such great things for us, and he said if ye love me keep my commandments. All his children do pay good attention to his word and will not leave the word, and follow the dragon, even if it should cost them their lives.

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12. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitors of the earth and of the sea, for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

How glad the sealed ones will be when they will assemble together to worship God, and not one of the dragon's followers among them, but they will have a sevenfold portion of the holy spirit, and be in the spirit on the Lord's day, and hold sweet communion with each other and with God. They will love one another with pure hearts fervently. But, O, the earth, and the sea, or in other words the civilized part, and the heathen part of the world, how dismal to be left in the power of the dragon, because they would not take warning at the sound of the trumpets ; and the wrath of God out against them. Ps. 110:5-6, "The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath. He shall fill the places with the dead bodies : he shall wound the heads over many lands."

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13. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.

There will be a short time of persecution, before the avenging of blood takes place, but one great satisfaction, they will have their own king to reign over them, and all their laws will be in exact accord with the word of God, and their crying and praying for their own king to come will then have been answered.

14. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

Two wings like a great eagle. God will take her away from the followers of the dragon, as he took Israel away from the bondage Egypt. Exo. 19:4, "Ye have seen what I have done unto the Egyptians. How I bear you on eagles wings, and brought you unto myself." She has to finish up her twelve hundred and sixty years in the wilderness ; but God will be very good to her there the last few years.

Hos. 2:14:20, "Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and will speak comfortably unto her. And will give her, her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope ; and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the days when she came up out of the land of Egypt.

18. And in that day will I make a covenant for them, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground, and I will break the bow, and the sword, and the battle, out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely. 19. And I will betroth thee unto me for ever, yea I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in loving kindness, and in mercies. 20. I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness ; and thou shalt know the Lord."

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15. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.

16. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

17. And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

The flood of water is a flood of persecutors. Rev. 17:15, "The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth are peoples, and multitudes and nations and tongues." But God has promised to keep her safe, and made the earth to swallow up the flood.

Those remnants are preachers sent out from the wilderness, to preach the gospel to the people, and to sound the trumpet of warning. We might have said much more about this woman. The fact that she is called a woman shows that she does not altogether please God, because the Lamb's bride is a virgin, the tares have been amongst the wheat ever since the days of the Apostles to this day. But God will soon make a change. Rev. 21:27, "And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth,

neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie ; but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life." It is satan who sows the tares among the wheat, but soon he will be bound. We might have written much about the two wonders in the first of the chapter. These are indeed very great wonders, and men of all generations have stumbled at these things. To think that Christ who has all power, in heaven, and in the earth, would allow the great red dragon to be in such close connection with his church and people, and to have so great power, even all the rulers of the nations and all the kings, completely in his hand. And the third part of the rulers in the house of God ; and that he (Christ) would suffer it so long, even from the Babylonish captivity to this day, but we have seen that Christ did sware at the first of it, that the time would be so long, and he has swore again to the time when it will come to an end. O, that the woman could confide in his word ; whom he clothed so beautiful at the first. He did let her drop all the hard yoke of the Old Testament worship, and put it under her feet, and he did clothe her with the easy yoke of Christ, and put the crown of twelve stars upon her head, even the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And we had seen that before all the Apostles had left this world, she had greatly left the teaching of his word, and now she is become so small, and the followers of the dragon so numerous, that many are ready to say there is no hope. Well, God has permitted all this in his infinite wisdom ; he takes no blame, but declares himself to be holy, and just, and good, yes, infinite, in all his attributes, and he has magnified his word above all his name, and the great trouble between him and his people is, that they have not confidence enough in his word, and do try other things to accomplish what God intends his word to do, and by this we might see who the spirit is by whom they are led. But they seem to be quite sure that they are under the influence of the hold spirit.

CHAPTER 13.

1. And I stood upon the sand of the sea and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

In this vision John saw this beast rise up out of the sea, the meaning of sea in this place being the wicked heathen world. Jude. verse 13, "Raging waves of the sea foaming out of their own shame." His seven heads are called seven mountains in the seventeenth chapter, which no doubt does mean seven countries. His ten horns had ten crowns, and are called ten kings, which receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These are the kings over whom the popes of Rome had great authority, for many generations. God calls the time of their reign one hour, the time of their reign looks short to God. He wants his poor persecuted children to wait patiently and think of the eternal happiness awaiting them. Rom. 8:18, "For I reckon that the suffering of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." He had on his heads the name of blasphemy. All these countries who profess to be worshipping God, and are adoring the beast, God says they have the name of blasphemy.

2. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion, and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

We see by this verse what God says about the cruel way in which the beast does rule. He has proved himself to be a ruler like this, just to think of all the poor saints he tortured and put to death, and then the way he rules over those who are deceived with his wicked pretence of having the keys of hell and of heaven. The poor deluded creatures who are under the authority of the beast, are in fearful bondage, and some of them do know well that their rulers are extremely wicked men, and yet they do submit to them, believing that they have power to send them to hell or to heaven. The dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. We all know who the dragon is, so that we are informed here where the beast got his authority and such great power.

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3. And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death ; and his deadly wound was healed ; and all the world wondered after the beast.

4. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast, and they worshipped the beast, saying, who is like unto the beast ? Who is able to make war with him ?

This head which was wounded to death was Great Britain : the beast lost all his power there for many years, but now he has got greatly into power there again, his wound is healed.

There is, according to the word of God, a great host, worshipping the dragon at this present time, and they worship the beast. Not only do his own blind followers warship him, but also those two hundred million warriors who pretend to be protestants, do worship him.

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5. And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies ; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

Our Lord and Saviour gave him this long time, three and a half years, a day for a year. Our Lord did sware in the days of Daniel, concerning this matter, as he did sware in the days of John, that it would come to an end at the sounding of the seventh trumpet. The beast does speak great things and blasphemy. He claims to be infallible, and claims to have the keys of hell and heaven, and many other blashemies.

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6. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

7. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them, and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

He blasphemes the name of God by calling himself far greater than God. 2 Thes. 3:4, "who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped, so that he as God, sitteth in the temple of God showing himself that he is God."

He did war with the saints all the time while the four trumpets were

being sounded, and overcame them in those days in such a way that he did put great numbers of them to death, and now at this present time, the dragon who gave him his power, and authority, has deceived all men so much that even the saints have been overcome with doctrines of the same kind as is taught by the beast ; and power was given unto him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. By this we see the extent of his authority. It is quite evident that his authority and power has been greater, and of longer duration than any other in the hands of sinful men. This shows plainly who the beast is. There is no other church or people on this earth, who ever had such power over the nations, which lasted so long as the church of Rome has had.

8. And all that dwell up on the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

This word earth as used here does mean the whole unregenerate part of the civilized world. Thanks be to God who will not leave his own people so much that they will worship him; although they are so much overcome by the false teaching of the second beast, that they appear to be spiritually dead. There might be a long piece written to show how people are worshipping him. God has not appointed any religious service at funerals, but he has said plenty against it, and yet nearly all people in christendom are following the example of the beast in this matter, and many who claim to be protestants, are observing lenten services, Christmas services, and many of the holy days of which there is no mention made in the word of God. It would be a good thing if people would take warning, and stand aloof from everything which there is no warrant for in the word of God.

9. If any man have an ear let him hear.

God does mean by this, that we should take notice, and keep clear from this great system of iniquity.

10. He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity. He that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword.. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

God wants all his children to have the spirit of Christ in them, and not to attempt to avenge themselves, but rather suffer. God says to their persecutors : James 5:6, "Ye have condemned and killed the just ; and he doth not resist you." God himself will avenge their blood, by punishing in like manner. Obed. verse 15, "For the day of the Lord is near upon all the heathen ; as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee." "Thy reward shall return upon thine own head."

11. And I beheld another beast coming out of the earth, and he had two horns like a Lamb and he spake as a dragon.

This beast came up out of the earth, or in other words out of the civilized part of the world ; and he had two horns like a lamb, the horns are his ruling power, the Lamb is Christ. There are no other people in our world who rule in their churches like the way Christ taught his disciples, only protestants. Matt.23:8-10, "Be ye not called Rabbi, for one is your Master even Christ, and all ye are brethren. And call no

man your father upon the earth : for one is your father which is in heaven. Neither be ye called masters : for one is your Master even Christ." And spake as a dragon. These words do show very plainly who the second beast is. How does the dragon speak ? When God says the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. The dragon said ye shall not surely die. This makes it very plain that everyone who denies the very plain teaching of the word of God, and teach contrary to what God says, they do belong to this beast. Look at all those who criticise the word of God, and think what high positions they do hold in the churches of today.

12. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

This second beast will exercise all the power of the first beast before him. This is immense, because power was given him over all kindreds and tongues and nations. Before him, or in other words, with his approbation. The first beast does seem to expect them all to come over to him, and no wonder, seeing they all are worshipping him. They think that he is a great one, because his deadly wound was healed.

13. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.

What is this fire ? It is a spirit. The holy spirit is likened to fire. Acts 2:3-4, "And there appeared unto them cloven tongues as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost." Fire in the above verse is certainly not the Holy Spirit, because this spirit deceives ; therefore he is the dragon.

14. And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword and did live.

By this we know that the fire is an evil spirit, because of his deception his miracles are no doubt the great and many conversions he thinks he is making. The image is the school system which all civilized people are so busy with at present, especially our little Canada. It was the school men Luther had such a fight with, and the schools will, according to this verse, be an image of the beast. It is those who dwell on the earth who are requested to make the image, or in other words the civil authorities. The beast living after having been wounded with a sword seems to make men adore him. That is because he has got into great power in Britain again.

15. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast,that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

This killing is what we read about when the fifth seal is opened. When this killing takes place, then the time will be come to avenge the blood. ; The dragon deceives them so much, that they think the religious teaching which many do want brought into the schools, will be the means of saving the souls of the children, and the religious teaching when they do get it established, will be so far from the true teaching of the word of God, that the saints will not send their children. Then the teachers will

speak to the parents, and if they will not adore the image and send their children, the strong arm of the law will then be used to compel them, first by fining them, and second, by imprisonment, and when the authorities do find out that these punishments will not make them worship the image,they will then add the death penalty. They do not know they are breaking God's law in all this ; God gave the children to the parents.

16. And he caused all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads.

17. And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

This mark is to show that they belong to the second beast, who has two horns like a Lamb, and the name or number, is to show that they belong to the first beast, but the saints cannot wear the badge because they fear God, and will not follow the evil spirit ; and they are thereby deprived of all common rights and privileges.

18. Here is wisdom ; let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast ; for it is the number of a man ; and his number is six hundred three score and six.

It is said by some that the numerical letters in one of the names which the first beast takes to himself make the number, when written in Latin. I am inclined to think that it is the number of the year when God cast them off from being a church ; when the beast took to himself such great titles, and made himself into a god. 2 Thes. 2:4, "Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped ; so that he as God, sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God." If this is the meaning of the number, Christ is the man mentioned. Our years are all numbered from him, so that he, the beast, will come to his end about the middle of the year 1926.

CHAPTER 14.

In the first five verses of this chapter we have a description of the very first of the millennial church. Satan has been cast out of her as recorded in the twelfth chapter. They have set up the right kind of a government to rule the state, and also the right kind to rule the church ; and we find all the rulers and people worshipping most beautifully in the house of God, which is the Mount Zion.

1. And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the Mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his father's name written in their foreheads.

We all know who the Lamb is ; the Mount Zion, is what ever place the saints of God do meet together to worship their God. Matt. 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Having his Father's name written in their foreheads. These are they who in the seventh chapter are sealed in their foreheads. Here it is called his Father's name. What a beautiful shining countenance. God is love ; their faces are glowing with love ; God is light and in him is no

darkness at all ; their faces are shining with spiritual light ; his name is holy ; what a contrast between their countenance and a guilty person. God is a spirit,their minds have been brightened up by a sevenfold portion of his Holy Spirit.

2. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters and as the voice of a great thunder ; and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps.

Heaven is the spiritual air which they breathe ; their voice is the voice of Christ. Rev. 1:15, "And his voice as the sound of many waters." And as the voice of a great thunder. The word of God sounds out from them like thunder, which makes men tremble. Heb. 4:12, "Piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit and of the joints and marrow, and is a descerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." And makes men cry. Acts 2:37, "Men and brethren what shall we do?" "And I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps." This is the gladness and joy of heart. Their hearts are tuned up with all the graces of the Holy Spirit. Ps. 57:7-8, "My heart is fixed O God my heart is fixed ; I will sing and give praise, Awake up my glory ; awake psaltry and harp; I myself will awake early.

3. And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders ; and no man could learn that song, but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.

Their song is the song given by God himself to praise him with. It has now become to them like a new song, since God has allured them to the wilderness where they have pure Spiritual air, and have got away from the smoke and brimstone, which came out of the mouths of those false teachers, which came so near being their ruin, and now they can sing the Psalms with the spirit, and with the understanding also. Before the throne ; yes, Christ has set up his throne on the earth, and has started a right government both in church and state, because both his four standard bearers, and his elders are here, all worshipping on Mount Sion, and the Lamb in the midst of them. Rev. 5:6,, "And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns, and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God, sent forth into all the earth."

Matt. 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

They are all singing the Psalms, and giving glory to the Lamb whose sufferings and death are so clearly set forth in the Psalms. And no man could learn that song, but the hundred and forty four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth, or in other words from the beast which came up out of the earth. Those two hundred million could not learn this song, their minds were so dark with the fire, the smoke, and the brimstone out of the bottomless pit.

4. These are they which were not defiled with women ; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth...These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits unto God and to the Lamb.

They are not defiled with women for they are virgens ; They did not worship the beast and his image ; they did look on all their own

officers as the servants of King Jesus. They follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. They learn well, his mind and will, as recorded in his holy word. And they keep his commandments because they love him. They were redeemed from among men. Is. 51:11, "Therefore the redeemed of the Lord, shall return, and come with singing unto Zion ; and ever lasting joy shall be upon their heads ; they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away." These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits unto God, and to the Lamb. The meaning of the first fruits here is that it is the very first of the millennial church. a

5. And in their mouth was found no guile : for they are without fault before the throne of God.

They are like the church of Smyrna, and Philadelphia, yes they are the reality of which Philadelphia is a picture ; and when the full harvest has come, of which this is the first fruit, it will then be a picture of the mansions of glory. This church will be a true and faithful church until Christ comes ; and then they will pass from time into eternity without passing through the dark valley. The three angels in the following verses are they who sound the three woe trumpets.

6. And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people.

This angel is the ministers sent out by the first fruits, to sound the fifth trumpet, the first of the sound is to all those teachers who are trying every scheme, and plan, and invention, which can be thought of, by women and men, and devils, to build up churches, that can supply plenty of loaves and fishes. This angel will have to leave the pure mountain air of Mount Zion, and come out into the dismal smoke, and preach the pure gospel,and point out all wherein those two hundred million horsemen are wrong. And oh to think of all the scoffing, and abuse they will have to suffer, because the war will then begin, and they will appear in the eyes of men to be very ridiculous, because they will find fault with teaching, which does seem so good, and the object which those teachers have in view, is so desirable, to all good people ; and yet every preacher who is taught by the spirit of God, and not at all led by the dragon, must find fault ; we will just take for example the temperance question. Supposing that Jezebel, with all of God's servants whom she has seduced, should succeed in curing drunkenness, by all the plans which they are trying, who would get the glory-? Most certainly not God, because he has no claims to those plans, because they are not in his word.

I would ask here is there a living man on the earth, who has heard a temperance sermon preached from the word of God. I asked an old pious man, who has moved from place to place in order to hear the truth preached, if he had ever heard a temperance sermon preached from the bible ? He said he could not remember of having heard one. But we have all heard plenty of Jezebel teaching from those poor ministers whom she has seduced.

I for one am certain that there is no other remedy only the teaching of the word of God, that will cure this great sin. Now this is only one point wherein this angel, or in other words, those ministers who will sound the fifth and sixth trumpets, will differ with those two hundred million teachers. Because I do not think that there is one single doctrine in the word of God but what is denied by some one or other of them.

And the men whose work it is to sound the fifth and sixth trumpets, will be called upon to defend, not only a few of the doctrines of the word, but the whole book. But those three trumpets which are yet to be sounded, differ from the four which have been sounded in times past, in this ; the time between the sounding of the trumpet, or in other words the warning given by the true preachers, the time between the warning and the punishment, for not giving heed to the warning, will be very short, and when men do see the punishment, many of them will become convinced that the teaching of the word of God is the only remedy for all evils.

7. Saying with a loud voice, fear God and give glory to him ; for the hour of his judgment is come; and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

We see by this that God claims all the glory. We see too that the time of the sounding of the trumpet is the time that he puts his judgments into execution ; at the sounding of this trumpet he calls upon all people to worship him, who is the creator of all things.

8. And there followed another angel saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

The great burden of the warning in this trumpet here is the destruction of Babylon, or in other words the church of Rome ; the same thing is taught at the sounding of this trumpet in the ninth chapter,only in oher words. In the ninth chaper she, with two hundred million rulers and teachers, are called the great river Euphrates, in allusion to the Babylonish captivity. See how this angel is brought before us in the eighteenth chapter. He is a powerful angel and the earth was lightened with his glory.

Seventh Trumpet

9. And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice if any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

10. The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.

11. And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever ; and they have no rest, day, nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

This part of the warning of the seventh trumpet, inform us of the eternal punishment of all those who would not take warning from all or any of the seven trumpets. This punishment is altogether in the future world, and it comes on individuals, every one suffers for his own or her own sins, which they did commit, while they did live on this earth. If anyone led men down the broad road to destruction, he will have the torment of those men always saying if it had not been for you I would not have been here ; and if any killed the saints, he will have the torment of the conscience of a murderer.

12. Here is the patience of the saints, here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

It is a grand thing for any people to have the testimony of God that they do this.

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13. And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth ; Yea saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labours ; and their works do follow them.

These are the martyrs who shall be put to death for not worshipping the image of the beast. Those who will be called upon to mourn their loss, will not have to wait twelve hundred and sixty years to have the murderers executed, because the murders will be committed while the sixth trumpet is being sounded, and the execution of the murderers will take place at the very first sound of the seventh trumpet. Christ made an oath when he taught this to us.

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14. And I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of Man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.

The white cloud is the great cloud of faithful witnesses. Christ will raise up to gather his harvest. He will gather the tares first and bind them in bundles to be burned. But he will gather the wheat into his barn. He is the Son of Man, but he has only one crown yet; O, when this cloud with the use of the sharp sickle gets all the work done, he will then be crowned with many crowns. Then they will see him in his beauty. He will be in their eyes white and ruddy, and the chiefest among ten thousand.

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15. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap ; for the time is come for thee to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.

The temple is God's own children ; they now cry to God to bring about this great event. Matt. 9:37-38, "Then saith he unto his disciples, the harvest truely is plenteous, but the laborers are few ; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his havvest. God has answered their prayer, and Christ gets all the glory, because they are his bondservants.

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16. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.

17. And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

This angel is the three one God, who dwells in the hearts of his those people. The temple here too, are the saints of God, but these are those who were slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held who have gone to their rest, but their blood is still crying from the ground to God for vengeance.

18. And another angel came out from the altar which had power over fire, and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth ; for her grapes are fully ripe.

This angel is our Lord Jesus Christ, the Fire is the Holy Spirit. Christ sends the spirit the Comforter to his children. John 16:7, "So that the three persons in the Godhead are engaged in the avenging of the blood of the martyrs. I would say here that every one of those clusters do profess to be on the side of christianity. The same as the Jews of old professed to be on the side of God, when the blood was avenged on them. Matt. 23:34-36, "Wherefore, behold I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes ; and some of them ye shall kill and crucify ; and some of them ye shall scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city. That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel, unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. Verily I say unto you, all these things shall come upon this generation. Jer. 2:21, "Yet I had planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right seed ; how then art thou turned into a degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me." We see by this that all these murderers have brought upon themselves the fearful destruction hereafter mentioned,the cry comes from the altar, (which is Christ's divine nature,) to the angel from out of the temple who has the sickle.

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19. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

20. And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.

This is the avenging of the blood of the martyrs by God himself. Is. 63:3, "I have trodden the winepress alone ; and of the people there was none with me ; for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury ; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. 4. For the day of vengeance is in my heart, and the year of my redeemed is come." It is what we read about in the fifth seal ; also in Rev. 17:6, "And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus." And in the last verse of the eighteenth chapter it is mentioned too, at the pouring out of the second vial.

CHAPTER 15.

In this chapter is brought before our minds another wonder of God. It is the part his faithful ministers will act, in the pouring out of the vials of the wrath of God upon all those who would not hear the warnings. Those ministers will do just as Moses and Aaron did, while God was pouring out his wrath on the Egyptians ; The saints of God are mentioned here to show us their position, while God is destroying the wicked. The plagues are much like the plagues of Egypt.

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1. And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels, having the seven last plagues ; for in them is filled up the wrath of God."

The word heaven does mean the spiritual heavens as it does in many other places. The seven angels are holy men, because they are clothed in pure and white linen. The white linen is the righteousness of Christ. There is something dreadful about the wrath of God in these plagues, in them is filled up the wrath of God.

2. And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire ; and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

The sea of glass is the whole word of God, which is likened to glass in many places in the word. 2 Cor. 3:18, "But we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord. It is counted a great victory to keep clear of all those deceptions, which those are guilty of who do not follow the teaching of the word. The sea is mingled with fire. This is the holy spirit of God. Rev. 4:5, "And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven spirits of God." The harps of God, is joy and gladness of heart, hearts tuned up with all the graces of the holy spirit.

3. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, great and marvellous are thy works. Lord God Almighty, just and true are thy ways thou King of Saints.

4. Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name ? for thou only art holy ; for all nations shall come and worship before thee ; for thy judgments are made manifest.

What is meant by the song of Moses is, that it is the song that was sung by the true people of God until Christ came, and the song of the Lamb, that is, the song of the true people of God in the time of the gospel The song is the same in both dispensations ; and then to think of the Psalms represented by those words ; How good God will be to his own people, to give them such strong faith, so that they can sing these Psalms of triumph at that time, when God is just at the point of slaying the third part of men. These people will have such confidence in the word of God, that they will feel themselves perfectly safe, standing on the sea of glass, or in other words on the word of God.

5. And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened.

6. And the seven angels came out of the temple,having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles.

The opening of the testimony is God making his word plain to these angels or ministers, the temple is God's own people assembled on Mount Zion. These angels come out from among them, and go to the wicked people to perform the part which God has assigned to them in the great destruction which these people have brought upon themselves by fighting against Michael and his angels. These seven angels are very holy men, clothed in white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles, they are very like Christ. Rev. 1:13, "Girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

7. And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth forever and ever.

8. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power ; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

These four beasts are the civil rulers God has set over his people. The vials are given by one of them,but we must remember that what ever they do, it is Christ who is the doer of it, for the four beasts are his bond servants.

Men begin to fear God when he puts some of them to death,especially among his own children. Ps. 78:34, "When he slew them, then they sought him ; and they returned and inquired early after God." These plagues will be so direct from the hand of God, that it will strike terror into the hearts of all men, except the sealed ones, those who have their Father's name written in their foreheads ; they are the temple, and God in the midst of them, which really makes them to be the temple. And no man was able to enter into the temple, just as it was in the days of the apostles, when Ananias and Sapphira fell dead. Acts 5:11, "And great fear came upon all the church and upon as many as heard these things."

Acts 5:13, "And of the rest durst no man join himself to them ; but the people magnified them. And believers were the more added to the Lord multitudes both of men and women."

CHAPTER 16.

And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.

2. And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.

This voice is the voice of God spoken by his bondservants who are his true church. Those who had the mark of the beast ; and those who worshipped the image are the great multitude of protestants who are the second beast which we read about in the thirteenth chapter of this book. We should remember all through these pages that the mother of Harlots and her daughters suffer together, and are destroyed together at the last, by being both cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone..

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3. And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea ; and it became as the blood of a dead man : and every living soul died in the sea.

These living souls are the sealed ones, or the new-born creatures of God. The meaning of the word sea in this place, according to Isaiah 57:20 "But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. Or in Jude, verse 13, "Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame. Or in Rev. 17:15, " And he saith unto me the waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples and multitudes, and nations, and tongues." This sea is called in the seventeenth chapter, the mother of Harlots, and abomination of the

earth, she is drunken with the blood of saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. Those wicked people the sea became as the blood of a dead man or in other words, cold blooded murderers, who put to death many of God's redeemed people.

4. And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters ; and they became blood.

5. And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus.

6. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink ; for they are worthy.

7. And I heard another out of the altar say, even so, Lord God almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments.

This is literally blood, the same as God gave the Egyptians to drink ; the saints on earth do know that the Lord is righteous in this, and also the souls under the altar who have gone to their rest. Rev. 6:9, "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held." Yes, all those in heaven and on earth do acquiesce in the judgment of God in this matter.

8. And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun ; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire.

9. And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues ; and they repented not to give him glory.

God speaks of this great event in the epistle, 2 Peter 3:10, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night ; in the which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

12. Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat. The heavens mentioned in Peter are the smoky heavens. "And repented not to give him glory" This is always the way with the wicked.

10. And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast, and his kingdom was full of darkness ; and they gnawed their tongues for pain.

11. And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.

The seat of the beast is the city of Rome and I suppose wherever there is a priest, or any of their rulers, and teachers. And let us not forget those protestants who think themselves so rich, and increased with goods that they have need of nothing. It will come on their seat too. All wicked people blaspheme, when they are punished by God.

12. And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates ; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.

The great river Euphrates as in the ninth chapter has reference to the Babylonish captivity ; and embraces all the nations, and people, who do not worship God according to his word, and who persecute his saints. The water thereof was dried up, that is everything that would hinder those kings and nations form joining in with the two beasts ; to destroy the people of God, is taken away for the time being. Like Pilot and Herod, who became friends when they were trying to destroy Jesus.

13. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

14. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

But the dragon and these two great deceivers, who have deceived the whole world with their show of good, even like miracles ; do now put forth their last effort to crush and destroy the saints, and they send out their three unclean spirits to gather all the kings of the earth together to fight with Christ. But God gives them the last and decisive blow. Rev. 19:20, "And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped the image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone."

15. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

This coming of Christ is mentioned many places by God in his word. Rev. 3:3, "If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee." Blessed is he that watcheth. This blessedness is brought before our minds in so many places in the word of God, that men who neglect are surely very unsafe. What is it to keep our garments ? We must be obedient to the word of God especially in religious matters. But the linen garments white and clean, even the righteousness of Christ are the garments we all need.

16. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armagedden.

This gathering of the kings and beasts takes place at the time of the great events recorded in the nineteenth chapter.

17. And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air ; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne saying, it is done.

The air, according to what is said at the sounding of the fifth trumpet is the place of dismal spiritual darkness, which caused God to slay the third part of men, by pouring on them the seven vials of his wrath. It is done, or in other words God has carried out his threatenings.

18. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings, and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake and so great.

There is nothing more certain than that all these things will come to pass. These same things are brought before our minds at the opening of the sixth seal, and to think of the great terror that will take hold of the minds of men of all ranks, when these things do come to pass. Rev. 6:15-17, "And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman and every free man, hid themselves in dens and in the rocks of the mountains ; And said to the mountains and rocks, fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb.

For the great day of his wrath is come and who shall be able to stand"

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19. And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell ; and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.

The great city Babylon will be divided into three parts, before her end comes. The ten horns, or in othr words the ten kings who gave their kingdom to the beast, will separate from her. Rev. 17:16, "And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate, and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire." There are some signs of this having begun at the present time. The French government have begun to stop the government pay to the great city. I know not where the other division will be. Most likely a split among their high officials. And the cities of the nations fell. All the nations must give way to King Jesus.

O to think of the suffering of great Babylon. The cup of the wine of the fierceness of God's wrath.

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20. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

21. And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent ; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail ; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

The islands and the mountains are the boundaries of the nations. At the opening of the sixth seal, we are informed that every mountain and island were moved out of their places ; the cause of this is the greed of all the nations for power and territory. But when our king shall be crowned with many crowns, and will take possession of the whole earth, there will be no greed. Jer. 23:5, "Behold the days come saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in all the earth.

Nearly every time hail is mentioned in the word of God, shows him to be very angry, but in place of men being humble, when they have provoked him by breaking his law, they blaspheme.

1. And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, come hither ; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters.

John had seen one of the four beasts, or in other words one of the four standard bearers give the seven angels the seven vials full of the wrath of God. And now one of the seven angels talks with John. This chapter and also the eighteenth, seems to be given to us to identify the people who are the first beast. And if we take notice to all that is written in these two chapters, along with that written elsewhere, those people are so minutely described that we need have no doubt about the matter.

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2. With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

Every departure from the word of God in religious matters is called by God in his word fornication. The kings of the earth for many generations did worship in her way ; the wine of her fornication is the evil spirit by which she is led ; there is no other system of worship who claim to be christians, which can claim so many of the inhabitants of the earth as devoted followers. They stick to her, like drunkards to their cups.

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3. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness : and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

John had to be carried away into the future to be shown this vision. He saw a woman. Churches are often called women in the word of God. He saw her sit on a scarlet colored beast. The pope and his cardinals do dress in scarlet on some occasions. Full of names of blasphemy. Where is there any other creature who takes to himself so many names of blasphemy as the pope does. Infallibility, the keys of heaven and of hell, forgives sins, and many other blasphemies. Seven heads and ten horns, these are explained further on.

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4. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication.

Her grandeur and riches has been immense, and she is proud of it, although it points her out and identifies her ; having a golden cup in her hand,, etc. I need not attempt to point out all her sins, for I could not do it. Some of those who have left her have written about her sins, and if any person would put themselves to the trouble to find out about her sins, by reading history and other books, they would become convinced that all the sins mentioned by God in those verses are her sins.

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5. And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

6. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus ; and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

These verses do point out some of the names by which she is called by God in his holy word. And she was drunk with the blood of the saints. Rev. 16:3, "And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea, and it became as the blood of a dead man, and very living soul died in the sea." I would say here that these angels who pour out the vials of the wrath of God are very holy men. Rev. 15:6, "Clothed in pure and white linen." Rev. 19:8, "for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." They must risk their lives while they pour out the vials of the wrath of God, on those cold blooded murderers. Rev. 12:11, "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony, and they loved not their lives unto the death. This is the second time she persecuted the saints of God, and kills them. And that she is the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth, so that when she is spoken of henceforth, we should think of her daughters too, who are as loathsome to God as she is. And the thousands of the dear saints of God whom she and the civil rulers who were under her control put to death is well authenticated in history, so that there need be no doubt in any person's mind who God meaneth by this description.

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7. And the angel said unto me, wherefore didst thou marvel ? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads, and ten horns.

8. The beast that thou sawest was, and is not ; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition : and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is."

Let us listen attentively to the angel when he explaineth this mystery. The beast was, and is not, and yet is ; in the tenth verse he says "And there are seven kings ; five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come." These seven kings are the seven heads of the dragon mentioned in the twelfth chapter, or in other words the seven great powers, which had authority over all the world, beginning with Nebuchadnezzar. In verse eleven the angel says, "And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition." These words do most surely connect this beast with the seven great powers, so that when the king of Babylon carried God's children captive, this great system of iniquity and persecution was begun. "And goeth into perdition." This does just as surely connect him with what God says about him in 2 Thes. 2:3, "Let no man deceive you by any means, for that day shall not come except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed the son of perdition."

Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped ; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God." The angel also says, "And shall ascend out of the bottomless pit." Here we are informed that the first beast shall or did ascend out of the bottomless pit, and in Rev. 9:2, it is the second beast, or in other words protestants, who let the smoke out of the bottomless pit. And it is also protestants out of whose horses' mouths or in other words out of the mouths of their teachers issued fire, and smoke, and brimstone. In Rev. 11:17, it is the second beast who ascendeth out of the bottomless pit, who overcame the two witnesses, and killed them so that the two beasts are alike in this respect. And they that dwell on the earth shall wonder. This connects him with what is recorded about him in the thirteenth chapter. Rev. 13:3, "And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death ; and his deadly wound was healed, and all the

world wondered after the beast. They wonder when they see his pros pering, and increasing in numbers and wealth,after having been consume by God's word and spirit, in the time of the reformation.

9. And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

These seven heads of the beast are quite distinct from the sever heads of the dragon mentioned in the 12th chapter. The beasts' heads are mountains or in other words countries. The dragon's heads had crowns on them shewing them to be kings.

10. And there are seven kings ; five are fallen and one is, and the other is not yet come ; and when he cometh he must continue a short space.

These seven kings are the dragon's seven heads ; five of them had lived their day, and were dead and gone, when John got this Revelation; one of them was still in power, which was the Roman pagan power. The seventh was the Roman power after it professed to be a christian government.

11. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.

He is the eighth, and is of the seven. If we would count him he would be eight, but he is more like a continuation of the seventh, because the religion of the rulers over the nations of Rome, seems to have been much the same as he. They pretend to be christians, but had not been able to distinguish between the Jewish religion and that of christianity, so it became a mixture of pagan, Jewish, and christian, and became fashionable, and very popular. The pope not only claims to have supreme authority over the church, but claims that he has, or should have authority over the nations too. And indeed, through all the time which we now call the dark ages, he had unlimited authority over the nations until the time of the reformation.

12. And the ten horns which thou sawest, are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

These ten kings are the ten kings of Europe, over which the popes of Rome had such unlimited authority for many generations. The time is called here an hour, well when God looks on the time it is to him a short time , because one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. But although it appears to God as one hour, yet twelve hundred and sixty years seemeth long for his saints to be trodden under foot, and clothed in sackcloth.

13. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

Could words make anything more plain than that the pope of Rome is the beast.

14. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them ; for he is Lord of Lords, and king of kings : and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

The most of these kings do claim to be on the side of the Lamb, but we see by this verse that he does disown them, because they are not following the teaching of his word, but ar upholding the beast. According to the 16th chapter of this book, and according to the 19th chapter, they will join with the beast, and with the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, or by his approbation. They, these ten kings, will unite with these two beasts, to exterminate the saints, at which time the beasts and the false prophet shall be taken and both be cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

I would ask again, could words be more plain to shew that the pope of Rome and his subordinate officers are the beast, where is any other power on this earth who have under their authority peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.

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15. And he saith unto me, the waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations and tongues.

16. And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate, and naked and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

This is yet in the future, and very little appearance of it at present, but,nevertheless, it will come or it would not be written in the book of Rev.

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17. For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

18. And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

We see by verse 17 that the words of God shall be fulfilled.

Churches are called women many times in the word of God. They are sometimes called cities, too. Take this 18th verse as it is connected with all the other parts of this chapter, and it is a positive proof that the woman, or city, is the church of Rome.

CHAPTER 18.

1. And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power, and the earth was lightened with his glory.

We have this same angel brought before our minds, Rev. 14:8, "And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, that great city, because she had made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. This is the angel who sounds the sixth trumpet. This angel is a great company of true and faithful preachers of the gospel, from among the hundred and forty and four thousand who stand with the Lamb on the Mount Zion. And the earth was lightened with his glory. Men like these who have a sevenfold portion of the holy spirit of God, will shine

like the Spouse, Song. 6:10, "Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an enemy with banners."

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2. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying,Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

These evil spirits do pretend to be the holy spirit, even the dove whom John the Baptist saw descending on Jesus. But God says they are unclean and hateful birds.

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3. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

Let us take notice how the great God does accuse all the nations of the earth of being guilty with her. She is the mother of harlots. Rev. 17:5. And we should keep it in mind while we read every verse in this chapter, and down to the end of the twelfth verse in the nineteenth chapter, that her daughters are doomed to suffer with her.. But we may see by the 21st verse of the nineteenth chapter that those who are left will be slain with the sword of his mouth. And all the doves, or in other words the seven spirits of God, will perform their work, by destroying the works of the flesh.

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4. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

5. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

This is the voice of God Almighty. Let us all take warning, and abide by the teaching of the word of God, and let us see to it that we keep ourselves clear of her lenten and Christmas services, and all religious services at funerals, and every other thing practised by the church of Rome, for which there is no command in the word of God. And to every one who are in the church of Rome, who may happen to see this word of warning, I do beg of you to come out of her, and get clear of those fearful punishments threatened by the word of God.

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6. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works ; in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.

According to this verse she has to get double punishment. This will surely be most dreadful when we think of all the cruel treatment the saints of God received at her hand.

7. How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously so much torment and sorrow give her ; for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen and am no widow and shall see no sorrow.

We often hear the boast of some of her people how prosperous they are. But we see by this verse that this prosperity will not help them at all, when the great God begins to deal with them.

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8. Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine, and she shall be utterly burned with fire ; for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.

All I would say to this verse is, to beg of all people to separate themselves from her, and from all her daughters, who are so rich with their own good things, because the second beast, or in other words, protestanism are punished with her. And be sure and follow the teaching of the word of God, especially in religious matters.

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9. And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning.

10. Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city, for in one hour is thy judgment come.

We read in the 17th chapter, verse 16, "And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate, and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire." Now although these ten horns, or kings, shall do all this, to this great city, yet when they see the dreadful destruction awaiting her come to pass, they will make great wailing, and lamentation over her.

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11. And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her ; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more.

12. The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble.

13. And cinnamon, and odours, and ointment, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men.

14. And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all.

15. The merchants of all these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing.

16. And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls.

17. For in one hour so great riches is come to naught. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off:

18. And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, what city is like unto this great city.

19. And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness ; for in one hour is she made desolate.

We should surely ask ourselves why did God .record .all .this.... destruction, and lamentation, ? What is he warning us against? Just every departure from his holy word, especially in religious matters. Now if we do not take warning after all God has given us in this little book of Revelation, we will surely have no excuse to make when we appear before him in judgment.

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20. Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets, for God hath avenged you on her.

This is the avenging of the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. Luke 21: 28, "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh."

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21. And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

22. And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee ; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee, and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee.

23. And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee ; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee ; for thy merchants were the great men of the earth ; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.

This mighty angel is our God and Saviour. He cast a great stone into the sea. This teacheth us that the destruction will be very sudden When these great events have all come and have passed away, a great change will then have taken place in the business of our world. We do need a change very much.

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24. And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.

God is keeping a correct record of the deeds of all those guilty parties who have shed the blood of his dear saints. Gen. 4:10, "And he said, what hast thou done ? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground." God did avenge the blood of his saints on the nation of the Jews. Matt. 23:34, "Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes ; and some of them ye shall kill and crucify,and some of them ye shall scourge in your synogogues and persecute them from city to city. 35. That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel, to the blood of Zacharias, son of Barachias whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. 36. Verily I say unto you,all these things shall come upon this generation." And now he is about to avenge the blood of his martyrs on this great city. He will send faithful preachers to show all those two hundred million warriors mentioned in the ninth chapter, how far they are

away from the gospel of the grace of God. And they will kill some of those faithful preachers, that upon them may come the blood of all that were slain upon the earth. Rev. 13:15, "And cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed." Rev. 6:9, "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held." 10. "And they cried with a loud voice, saying, how long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blod on them that dwell on the earth. 11. And white robes were given unto every one of them ; and it was said unto them that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled." We see by this that there will yet be a time of bitter persecution, and the true people of God will yet see some of the very best of them put to death, because they cannot worship the image of the beast. It is the three one God who does avenge the blood. Rom. 12:19, "Vengeance is mine ; I will repay, saith the Lord." Is. 63:3-4, "I have trodden the winepress alone : and of the people there was none with me : for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury ; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come."

CHAPTER 19.

1. And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven saying, Alleluia, Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God.

The cause of this great joy is two great events. First, God has avenged the blood of his servants at the hand of the great whore. Second, for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. This is the voice of the saints of the true God, after the blood of the martyrs has been avenged. They are in heavenly places. Eph. 2: 6, "And he has raised us up together, and made us to sit together in heavenly places in Jesus Christ." They have come through a cruel persecution, their elders, their husbands, their fathers, and brothers, have been put to death legally, according to the laws of the land. It is the law makers who make the image to the beast. Rev. 13:14, "Saying unto them that dwell on the earth that they should make an image to the beast, which had a wound by the sword, and did live." 15. "And cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed." Now let us take notice that it is a great union of protestants who request the lawmakers to make the image to the beast, so that it is protestants who are the persecutors, at this last persecution.

2. For true and righteous are his judgments; for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.

The saints do acquiesce in the punishment which God hath inflicted on these persecutors. He hath judged the great whore which did corrupt the earth with her fornication. These saints do remember well, how nearly they lost their crown by plausible false teaching of the great whore and her daughters. God's saints are more afraid of offending God than anything else in the world They would rather lay down their lives, and when they remember how much they were deceived by the fornication, or

spiritual whoredom of the beast, and how they had lain spiritually dead in the street of the great city for three days and an half, they are glad that the like will never happen again.

3. And again they said, Alleluia, and her smoke rose up forever and ever.

4. And the four and twenty elders, and the four beasts, fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne,saying,Amen, Alleluia

These elders are the office bearers in the house of God, and the four beasts are the standard bearers of the nations, as we have said often.

5. And a voice came out of the throne saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great.

God doth hereby call upon all his people of every rank, to adore and praise him.

6. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia, for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

This great joy seems to be greater than any heretofore ; the joy of the first fruits, chapter 14, is like this, the true saints of God have been clothed in sackcloth for over twelve hundred years and their joyful moments have been few.

7. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him ; for the marriage of the Lamb is come,and his wife hath made herself ready

This is what all the true saints have been longing and praying for, from the time that sin entered the world until this day. This is the same time prophesied in Hos. 2:20, "I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness; and thou shalt know the Lord.

8. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen clean and white ; for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

All saints when they get a sight of the breadth of the holy law of God do exceedingly loath themselves, because they do come so far short of keeping it. But when they do get clothed all over with this fine linen, they do feel good, knowing that their own God looks on them with a beaming countenance.

9. And he saith unto me, Write, blessed are they who are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb...And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

All the saints would like well to live to see the time mentioned in this verse ; I have no doubt but that some of the young people who are living now will see it before they leave this world.

10. And I fell at his feet to worship him, and he said unto me,see thou do it not ; I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus ; worship God ; for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

John is so exceedingly glad to know that such a blessed time will come on this earth, that he falls down to worship the angel who made it known to him. John had seen the church prosper for a time, not only in great numbers being added to it, but he had seen a little flock at Jerusalem, who were willing to give up all that they had in this world for the benefit and comfort of the flock. But things had greatly changed ; he had seen many false teachers in the church. 1 John 2:18, "Even now are there many anti christs." 1 John 4:3, "And this is that spirit of antichrist, whereby we have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." When his Lord and Master was taken up he had a good home where he could keep the Lord's mother. But now when he wrote this book, he was a poor old persecuted man, living in banishment on a lonely isle. No wonder that he was glad when he heard these words.

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11. And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse, and he that sat upon him was called faithful and true. ; and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

This is our Lord and King. He rides out on his white horse, the emblem of his authority and power as a lawmaker and teacher. All his own children have full confidence in him; they know well that he will conquer all his and our enemies.

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12. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written that no man knew but he himself

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His eyes represent the holy spirit, even a sevenfold portion of it. Rev. 5:6, "And seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God, sent forth into all the earth." And on his head were many crowns. He has by this time poured out the seven vials of his wrath on the wicked of the earth, and has let loose his four angels or threatenings, and by this time a great part of his enemies have been slain. And men have seen what a delusion they have been in by following those beasts instead of abiding by the word of God. They have turned to the Lord in millions, and crowned him with many crowns. No man knows this name but he himself.

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13. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood; and his name is called the word of God.

Is. 63:1, "Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah ? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength ? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save." Verse 2 : "Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in.the winefat ?. 3. I have trodden the winepress alone ; and of the people there was none with me : for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury : and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. 4. For the day of vengeance is in my heart, and the year of my redeemed has come. 5. And I looked, and there was none to help ; and I wondered that there was none to uphold : therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me ; and my fury, it upheld me. 6. And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth." John 1:14, "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us."

14. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

His followers have set up a pure government, and do teach the pure doctrines of the gospel, in exact accord with the word of God, symbolized by white horses. I would say here as I have said before that our Lord will not come in our nature, and live on the earth as some think. But he will be really and truely, with them by his word and spirit. His followers are clothed with his righteousness, white and clean.

15. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations ; and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

This sharp sword is his holy word. When men are smitten by the Lord, they begin to see their lost state, and to enquire after the way of salvation. The Apostle Paul thought that he was spiritually alive until he heard the words of Jesus, and said Lord what wilt thou have me do ? His rod of iron is the weapon he useth to break, and destroy the power and authority of all those nations who obey not his word. The winepress is that whereby he will destroy all men who persecute his faithful servants and put them to death because they follow the teaching of the word of God. Rev. 14:20, "And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.

16. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

17. And I saw an angel standing in the sun ; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God.

18. That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

Ps. 45:3, "Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O most Mighty. Verse 5, Thine arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies ; whereby the people fall under thee."

This angel is our Lord Jesus Christ ; he is the sun of righteousness. Mal. 4:2, "But unto you that fear my name shall the sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings." These fowls are doves, even the seven spirits of God. They are very unlike the birds mentioned in Rev. 18:2, "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird." It is Christ who sends the holy spirit the comforter, John 15:26, "But when the comforter is come whom I will send unto you from the father, even the spirit of truth." It is the work of the spirit to destroy the works of the flesh. Gal. 5:16, "This I say then, walk in the spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lusts of the flesh." Conquered kings, and captains are very trouble some people in a nation, but the holy spirit can subdue them and make them good and loyal subjects. Horses in this book sets forth ruling and teaching, both in church and state of every kind, both true teachers and

false. Christ riding on his white horse, and all his followers on white horses, denotes all the authority and teaching of Christ both over the church and over the nations. Eating the flesh of the horses of those persecutors shows us that the holy spirit will take away all desire from them to teach their false doctrines, and to uphold the power of the dragon. The spirit can make a complete change in all kinds of men.

19. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse and against his army.

The three unclean spirits have by this time done their work, when the dragon with his two great systems of worship and deception, have induced the kings and nations of the earth and of the whole world to join with them, in order to exterminate the saints.

20. And the beast was taken and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

This is most certainly a most dreadful destruction ; because our God is a God of truth, and he does not exaggerate ; the following verse does show what an effect it takes on the remnent who are left.

21. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

The sword is the word of God, and the fowls are the holy spirit, or the seven spirits of God mentioned in the first of this book. The holy spirit has a great work to perform on the remnant. He has to change them from being persecutors to be true saints, and when his work is done he is filled, or in other words, well satisfied with his work. Like Christ. Is., 53:11, "He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied." This remnant is an exceeding great multitude, Rev. 7:9, "After this I beheld,, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palms in their hands." O what joy there will be in the mansions of glory when this remnant is brought into the way of salvation ; Luke 15:10, "Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

CHAPTER 20

1. And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

2. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the devil and satan, and bound him a thousand years.

3. And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled ; and after that he must be loosed a little season.

This angel with the key is our Lord Jesus Christ. He has the keys of hell and of death, and he has full power over the devils. They could not go into the swine until they got liberty from him. Nor could he touch Job or anything belonging to Job until he got liberty. The devil has always been going about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour, until the time mentioned here.

4. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them ; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands ; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

The saints at this time have got full possession of the kingdom and have authority over the whole earth. This event is mentioned three times in Daniel 7:18-22-27. But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, even for ever and ever, etc. Those who live and reign with Christ a thousand years are the party, or church to which the martyrs did belong, those who were not led away with those false teachers ; those for whom Christ died, and rose again.

5. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Our churches at this present time are just full of tares, or in other words of people who are spiritually dead. It is the devil who sows the tares, but now when he is shut up, those people who are spiritually dead, do not get it into their minds that they are alive until satan is let loose again .Those only who are risen with Christ which is the first resurrection are spiritually alive, or in other words born again.

6. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Christ in his death and in his resurrection represented every saint that ever has been, or ever shall be, and at the new birth they become partakers of the first resurrection, and are blessed and holy. And when Christ arose from the dead every one for whom he died, arose from eternal death. Col. 3:1, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Those who overcome in the church of Smyrna shall not be hurt of the second death.

7. And when the thousand years are expired, satan shall be loosed out of his prison.

8. And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle; the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.
9. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city; and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

The camp of the saints is the rulers over the nations. And the beloved city is the church. We can see by this what power the evil spirit has over men. For when he is taken away from them, they are quiet

creatures, and quite content to let those who have the spirit of God in them be the rulers over the nations, and they never think of joining the church. What a wonderful contrast, when we read all that is said about this matter in the word of God, and when we look at the power he does exercise over men in our day; he makes men to be great and wise rulers over the nations. Luke 16:8, "For the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of the light." According to the word of God, the devil's servants do rule over the nations, from Nebuchadnezzar to the beginning of the millennium, and he makes men to be great financiers, who can heap up wealth in millions, and he makes them to be very religious, so that they can invent what they think to be far better ways of worshipping God than the way God has appointed; he even makes men to think that they are holier than God. Is. 65:5, "Which they say, stand by thy self, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou." When he is let loose again how quick he can make unrenewed men to be active, and to think that they can rule over the earth far better than saints. They begin right away to prepare to take the government into their own hands, and no doubt but they would have the church too if God had not interfered The fire devoured them. This is the last of the wicked in this world, and there are no other but saints when Christ comes.

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10. And the devil, that deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

11. And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

This is the second coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in our nature ; the coming which his saints do love, for he will take them all home to his Father's house, where there are many mansions, and they will then be ever with the Lord, and behold his glory. This is the coming when all the holy angels will be with him. Matt. 25:31, "When the Son of Man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him." The earth and the heaven fled away, although there has been no rulers over the nations only his own dear saints which are called the earth, nor had there been any tares among the wheat, in his church which is called heaven; yet so imperfect has been their work,that when they see him in his glory,and all the holy angels with him, they will be glad to have all their doings removed away from them where they never can be found.

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12. And I saw the dead small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened; and another book was opened,which is the book of life; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them; and they were judged every man according to their works.

14. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

15. And whoseever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Our Lord says, Luke 12:5, "But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear : fear him, which after he hath killed, hath power to cast into hell,yea,

I say unto you, fear him." Many people are denying that there is any future punishment. Our God is a true God, and he does not exaggerate. Everything He does is done in infinite wisdom, in everything he is doing with our race he is making a display of all his attributes, unto all his intelligent creatures and when once they come to understand all his works, they will give him glory and praise.

In the following two chapters,we are taken back to the beginning of the millennial period ; and God makes a display of the glory and beauty of his church and people, while satan is bound. Many people think that it is a description of the mansions of glory. Well, it is the best picture we have of God's house where there are many mansions. 1. Cor. 2:9, "But as it is written, Eye hath not sen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." But there are a number of things said about this holy Jerusalem, which would not do for the mansions of glory.

CHAPTER 21

1. And I saw a new heaven and a new earth ; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away ; and there was no more sea

This new heaven is the millennial church ; and the new earth is the government over the nations, in the hands of the saints, and there was no more sea. The sea was the high minded, bold, forward men, who formerly had the ruling power in their hand. But now when satan is bound so that he cannot operate on their minds, the unregenerate are dull, slow minded men, compared with what they were when they were led by satan. And there was no more sea. Is. 57:20, "But the wicked are like the troubled sea when it cannot rest. Jude. verse 13, "Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame."

2. And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

This holy city comes down from God. Men and evil spirits cannot make a true church of God; everything that makes it a true church comes down from God out of heaven. Every member must be created anew in Christ Jesus, none can create but God. He takes up his abode in the hearts of all his saints. 2. Cor. 6:16, "Ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." 1. Cor. 4:7, "For who maketh thee to differ from another ? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive ? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it." She is a bride adorned for her husband. Is. 61:10, "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hat clothed me with the garments of salvation. He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with jewels."

3. And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying, behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

If Israel had obeyed God in all things, he would always have been with them. Num. 35:34, "Defile not therefore the land which ye shall in-

habit, wherein I dwell; for I the Lord dwell among the children of Israel."

4. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away."

The church in the millennial period are a very happy people, according to what is written about them in many places in the word. Rev. 7:17 "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." Is. 35:11, "And the ramsomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs, and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." And there shall be no more death, that is there will be no more martyrs, nor will people have to mourn any more, because their friends have been slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held. And there shall be no more pain. The true people of God have always been very anxious that the Lord Jesus would reign over the nations of the earth, and they have been praying to God for this; ever since God said that the seed of the woman would bruise the head of the serpent, asking God, that the kingdoms of this world would become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ. The church is brought before our minds as a woman. Rev. 12:2, "And she being with child, cried travailing in birth, and pained to delivered." This is the anxiety of the church, that God's holy child Jesus should be king. But in the millennial period, this pain would be no more; for the former things are passed away All the rulers who ruled under satan, are completely conquered, and subdued .

5. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me write, for these words are true and faithful.

6. And he said unto me, it is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

..What a wonderful change it will make in the world when there will be no other in the church only saints; and no other to rule over the nations,only men who are just, and true, and upright.

It is done, the great change is made, satan is bound shut up and sealed. There are no other only saints in the church. The ruling power over the nations is all in the hands of the saints. And they now give him the glory that is due to him; he is the first and the last. His word will be in the thirsty soul , a well of waer springing up unto everlasting life. Heb. 8:10, "I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts; and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people."

7. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son."

By this we can see that there will still be a war, although satan is shut up, and the old corrupt nature will still be there, and must be overcome by every heir of God.

8. But the fearful and unbelieving and the abominable, and murderers and whoremongers, and sorcersers, and idolators, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone which is the second death.

By this we are taught that even in that good time, men are not all saved, and when the time comes when satan is let loose again, the wicked are the great majority. Rev. 20:8, "And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth. Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle; the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

9. And there came unto me one of the seven angels, which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, come hither, I will show thee the bride the Lamb's wife.

This brings us back to the 15th and 16th chapters; those seven angels are ministers in the church ; clothed in pure white linen. The white linen is righteousness of saints, or in other words Christ's righteousness; so that when John was shown the holy Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, was about the time, or shortly after the pouring out of the seven vials of the wrath of God. This shows that while God is destroying the wicked many people will become convinced that the word of God is the rule to guide them in religious matters, and not the inventions of men.

10. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

11. Having the glory of God ; and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

As we said before, everything that makes a true church, comes down from God out of heaven.

Their light does at this time shine bright, according to the command of God. Matt. 5:16, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." They have their Father's name in their foreheads. 1.John 1:5, "God is light and in him is no darkness at all.

12. And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel.

God himself is the wall. Zech. 2:5, "For I, saith the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about,and will be the glory in the midst of her."

Ps. 125:2, "As round about Jerusalem
the mountains stand alway
The Lord his folk doth compass so,
from henceforth and for aye."

And had twelve gates with the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel. This takes us back to the old testament, and if we want to know all about the gates of this holy city, we must take notice to all that is written there about the places where God records his name, and we must consider well all the gates. The gates are where members are admitted into the church. Ps. 48:12, "Walk about Zion, and go round about her ; tell the towers thereof. 13. Mark well her bulwarks, consider her palaces ; that ye may tell it to the generation following."

13. On the east, three gates ; on the north, three gates ; on the south three gates, and on the west, three gates.

This shows how careful office-bearers should be in taking in members to the church. They should be on the lookout on all sides. But the keepers of the gates will then have great spiritual light, and will be able to judge the fruits of those who are asking admittance. And Satan will not be there to deceive all parties.

14...And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

He set his twelve apostles on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. The Apostles have explained the old testament. And we should give good heed to what is recorded about those things in the new testament. The tabernacle which was built in the wilderness, and the temple at Jerusalem were types, or pictures, of the New Testament church. Eph. 2:20, "And are built upon the foundations of the Apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone. 4. In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord."

15 And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates theerof, and the wall thereof.

The golden reed is the word of God ; everything must be measured by it. The gates, the angels at the gates should see to it that they do their work in exact accord with the word, the wall has to be measured too, so that we will be certain that we have the true God. And that we may learn to know him. John 17:3, "And this is life eternal that they might know thee, the only living and true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

16. And the city lieth four-square, and the length is as large as the breadth ; and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs...The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.

When God looks on this city he sees the whole city, all the saints who are with him in paradise, and all who are here on this earth, and all who are yet unborn. The past, and the present, and the future seem to be all alike to him. It is a large city, equal on all sides, reaching to the mansions of Glory. Every one who is born again, do at their birth, become citizens of this great city. Heb. 12:22-24, "But ye are come unto Mount Zion, and unto the City of the Living God., the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels. To the general assembly and church of the first born, which are written in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect. And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel."

17. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is,of the angel

Job 11:7, "Canst thou by searching find out God ? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection ? But it is according to the measure of a man, that is of the angel. This angel is one of God's redeemed. Rev. 15:6, "Clothed in pure and white linen." So that the measurement of God who is the wall, is according to the capacity of this man, to learn to know God.

18. And the building of the wall of it was of jasper ; and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass.

God is to look upon like a jasper stone ; Rev. 4:2-3, "And one sat on the throne. And he that sat, was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone." The city was pure gold like clear glass. The city is built with living stones. Lam. 4:2, "The precious sons of Zion comparable to fine gold." 1 Pet. 2:5, "Ye also as living stones are built up a Spiritual house

19. And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald.

20. The fifth, sardonix ; the sixth, sardius ; the seventh, chrisolyte ; the eighth, beryl ; the ninth, a topaz ; the tenth, a chrysoprasus ; the eleventh, a jacinth ; the twelfth, an amethyst.

The great foundation of the whole matter is, what Christ has done for us, and what he is now doing, and what he will do for us in the future, and they are exceedingly precious to all those who know the value of them. Those precious stones lead our minds to the precious stones in the breastplate of Aaron ; he was a type of picture of Christ in his priestly office. On those stones were engraved the names of the children of Israel. When Aaron went into the holy place, it represents Christ going into heaven. Christ bears the name of all those for whom he died and pleads for them before the throne of God. 2. Tim. 2:19, "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his."

21. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls ; every several gate was of one pearl ; and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

These pearls are all the precious doctrines of the gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. All his precious promises, which are so great and so many, that they are away beyond what we can comprehend. 2. Pet. 1:4, "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these we might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." 2. Cor. 1:20, "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us." And we should think of all the invitations in the word of God pleading with us to come, and accept of all those precious promises. Is. 1:18, "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord ; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow ; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." All those twelve pearls become so very precious in the eyes of poor lost sinners when they begin to know their true positions in the sight of God, that thousands of them have laid down their lives rather than give up one of those pearls. And the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. God's word is likened to pure gold in many places, and is also likened to glass often. Ps.119:72, "The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver." Jam. 1:23, "For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass, etc." The street of the city is where men walk. 2 Chron. 17:4, "But sought to the Lord God of his fathers, and walked in his commandments, and not after the doings of Israel."

22. And I saw no temple therein ; for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

1 Cor. 3:16, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you ? But it is God being in his people which makes them to be the temple. The members of this church do ascribe unto the Almighty God, and to the Lamb, such honour, and glory and blessing, that any one looking on like John, will take notice to none but the one who is worshipped. See the 4th and 5th chapters of this book, and also the 47th Psalm.

23. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it, for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

Every one in this city will have such great spiritual light, and such a good understanding of the word of God, that they will not need to be taught as we do need in this dark day, when the sun and the air are darkened by the smoke from the bottomless pit. Heb. 8:11, "And they shall not teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord ; for all shall know me, from the least unto the greatest."

24. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it, and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

Rev. 11:15, "And the seventh angel sounded ; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ ; and he shall reign for ever and ever." This is the time that the true Israel of God has been longing for, ever since the fall of our race from the rectitude in which God created us. The true people of God have a great love for their King. This prophecy tells of the time when King Jesus has conquered all the nations of our earth, and set his own servants on his throne to manage the affairs of the nations, until he come the second time to pass sentence on the wicked, and to take all his own Israel home to the mansions of glory. Those kings, or in other words the servants of the most high God, do come and worship in this holy city, along with all the loyal subjects of the nations over whom they rule. Is. 49:22-23, "Thus saith the Lord God, behold, I will lift up mine hand to the gentiles, and set up my standard to the people; and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried on their shoulders. And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers; they shall bow to thee with their faces toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet ; and thou shalt know that I am the Lord ; for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me."

25. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day, for there shall be no night there.

Is. 55:1, "Ho every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters. Matt. 11:28, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Not only are the gates standing open, but the King himself is inviting all people who feel their miserable and destitute condition to come in, and he is well able to make them to become fit subjects to dwell in this city. Rev. 3:18, "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in

the fire that thou mayest be rich ; and white raiment that thou mayest be clothed , and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear ; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve that thou mayest see." There shall be no night there. What a contrast, to the midnight darkness in our time, and us all sleeping, and satan busy sowing tares among the wheat.

26. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.

Ps. 45:12, "The daughter there of Tyre shall be
With gifts and offerings great ;
Those of the people that are rich
thy favor shall entreat."

27. And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination or maketh a lie ; but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."

Satan will then be shut up and sealed. He is the one who sows the tares among the wheat. And the gatekeepers will have such wonderful spiritual light, even a sevenfold portion of the spirit, and those who are born of the spirit and do come asking admittance, will be sealed with the holy spirit of promise, having their Father's name written in their foreheads. The change that will take place at the new birth will be far more visible then than it is in our day, because satan imitates the work of the holy spirit, and thereby deceives hundreds of millions of our poor lost race, and they do really believe that they are in a state of salvation, but God says, Rev. 9:17-18, "Out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone."

By these was the third part of man killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. What God calls smoke out of the bottomless pit. Rev. 9:1, "These millions of poor deceived creatures, do really think that it is good riches, and they think God is well pleased with what they are doing, although they know well that they did not find them where all true spiritual riches are found, that is in the treasures of the word of God. But there will be no such deception all through the millennium.

CHAPTER 22.

1. And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb,

This is the word of God. John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word and the word was with God, and the Word was God." 1. Cor. 10:4, "And did all drink of the same spiritual drink ; for they drank of that spiritual rock that followed them ; and that rock was Christ."

2. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month, and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

The street is the word of God. The river is the word of God. The tree of life is our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He is the good olive tree. He is the vine. This verse is like the preaching of the Apostle

Paul. 1. Cor. 2:2, "For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." The tree bare twelve manner of fruits. This is the twelve pearls written about in Rev. 21:21. The fruit is all his work which he has done and is doing in saving souls. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. These are all his laws to guide the nations. The laws of the nations should all be founded on the word of God. The laws which men make are often very oppressive, but God's laws are all perfect liberty, so that by observing and keeping them, the nations are healed.

3. And there shall be no more curse ; but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it ; and his servants shall serve him.

In Deuteronomy 28th chapter, God did set before the children of Israel, both blessings and curses. And did let them try themselves if they would obey his laws or not. But in the millennium, he will so fill his people with his holy spirit that they will obey his commandments, and there will be no more curse. They will always remember that he dwells among them, and that the throne is his, and that all the laws are his, both of the nations, and of the churches. And he will remember his covenant and enable them to keep it. Heb. 8:10, "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord ; I will put my laws into their minds, and write them in their hearts ; and I will be to them a God and they shall be to me a people."

4. And they shall see his face ; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

When God hides his face from any people they are in a dreadful condition. Deut. 31:16-18, "And the Lord saith unto Moses, behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers ; and this people will rise up, and go awhoring after the Gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them. Then mine anger shall be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide my face from them, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall befall them ; so that they will say in that day, are not these evils come upon us, because our God is not among us ? And I will surely hide my face in that day for all the evils which they have wrought, in that they are turned to other Gods." But in the millennial period God's children shall see his face, or in other words his face shall shine on them. Num. 6:24-26, "The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make his face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace." And his name shall be in their foreheads." We have said much about this in former chapters. They are sealed in their foreheads ; this is the gift of the Holy Spirit in great measure, so that they are always beaming in the light of God's countenance.

5. And there shall be no night there, and they need no candle, neither light of the sun ; for the Lord God giveth them light ; and they shall reign for ever and ever.

The day of destruction will then be passed, and all the vials of the wrath of God will then have been poured out. The ten sleeping virgins will then be awake from their dead sleep, the five wise virgins will have gone in with the bridegroom to the marriage, and will have become a

faithful bride, as in Hos. 2:20, "I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness ; and thou shalt know the Lord." There will be no more spiritual darkness, all the members of the church will then be children of the light, and children of the day. They shall reign for ever and ever. This Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom. Dan. 2:44, "And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed ; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms,and it shall stand forever"

And he said unto me, these sayings are faithful and true ; and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

Faithful and true. This leaves us inexcusable if we do in any measure doubt the truth of any part of this book. The Lord God of the holy prophets. This surely takes in all the writings of the holy prophets. Must shortly be done. Does this mean that all the bitter things mentioned in this book are yet very far away in the future ? Certainly not. Mark 13:35-37, "Watch ye therefore, for ye know not when the Master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock crowing, or in the morning. Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, watch."

7. Behold, I come quickly, blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

This is another word to make us expect these things soon ; We are warned in many places in God's word, that when this event does take place it will come on us very unexpectedly. Blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book. We cannot have this blessedness by teaching and trusting in the inventions of men. Our Lord says, Mark 7:7:, "How be it in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." We must observe and obey the teaching of the word of God.

8. And I John saw these things, and heard them...And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.

This is another warning that we must not doubt what is written in this book. But we should like John, be very anxious to get a proper understanding of it. He wept much when he saw it sealed, and no man worthy to open it. But by what is written in this verse we know that he understood it well, and when he heard what a beautiful holy bride Christ would have all through the millennial period, he was completely overcome with joy and gratitude, and did so much forget himself, that he fell down to worship, etc. But no doubt Christ was in his mind, for he had seen him many times in the vision while the book was being opened.

9. Then saith he unto me, see thou do it not ; for I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book : worship God.

This angel upholds the worship of the true God and him only ; he gives a description of himself. By this description it is like as if he was one of God's redeemed ones of our race, if he was the angel mentioned in Rev. 21:9, "And there came unto me one of the seven angels

which had seven vials full of the seven last plagues." This angel is one of our race. They are men who will have work to do like what Moses and Aaron did do, while God was bringing all his plagues on Egypt. And we know that these angels are men, because they are clothed in pure and white linen.

10. And he saith unto me, seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book : for the time is at hand.

After all these words, about the importance of us all knowing what God is saying to us in this book, how will it be with us when we must appear before God, and give an account of how we have kept his commandments ? How will it be, if we have altogether neglected to try and find out the meaning of it ? And we have another warning in this verse that it is near to come.

11. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still : and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still ; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still, and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

12. And behold I come quickly : and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

There is a time in every man's life when God speaks these words to him, so that we should surely take warning, and use all the means which God has given us, in order to become righteous, and holy. But it is spoken more particularly to the people on or about the time when satan is let loose again to deceive the nations, and gather them together to destroy the saints ; or it might be that their intentions will be to take the ruling and teaching authority into their own hands over both church and state,the same as they have at the present time. So that these two verses are about the last words spoken by God to the wicked in this word, just before he sent fire to devour them. We see by what we read in the 20th chapter that the wicked are all devoured by fire, when they rise up to battle with the saints.

13. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last

He reminds us of this very many times in this book. It is to make us always keep it in mind that he is the great God.

14. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

It is a great affair to have the blessing of God ; his commandments are doubtless the whole word of God, so that we need not expect his blessing, if we neglect, or reject any part of his word. It is true that we cannot do his Commandments to please him, without being born of the spirit. Luke 11:13, "If ye then, being evil know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him." He gives the spirit in great measure in the millennial period. Phil. 1:6, "Being confident of this very thing, that he which has begun a good work in you will perform until the day of Jesus Christ." As soon as any person is born of the Spirit, and begins to obey the word,he has a right to the tree of life, and may enter into the city

15. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and Whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

And in the 21st chapter, verse 8, "But the fearful and unbelieving,and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolators, and all liars." Now these two verses shew plainly what kind of people we are, if not born of the spirit, even if we are not tempted by the devil ; because at this time the devil is bound, and shut up, and sealed. Let us now take particular notice to these unregenerate people ; and compare them carefully with the people of our day who are not following the teaching of the word of God with whom God finds so much fault, and will spue them out of his mouth ; by doing this we may come to know in some measure what effect the temptation of the devil has on the minds of men. God tells us in these verses what people are like who are not tempted These people have not joined the churches in the millennial period, nor meddled at all in the government of the nations. But in our day they have almost unlimited authority over the nations, and over the churches, and they have begun to take possession of the authority over the children in the family, and are just at the point of taking all the religious instruction of the children into their hands, and will ultimately put the parents to death, because they will not submit to have their children taught the religion of those people who say they are rich, and increased with goods, have need of nothing and know not that they are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. Rev. 13:15, "And cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed." The devil at this present time is transformed into an angel of light, and his ministers are transformed into ministers of righteousness, and according to what is recorded in the 9th chapter they have two hundred million law makers and teachers ready to go into a spiritual war, and well able, as they think, to defend themselves against Christ and his followers, and nearly every person in the civilized part of the world is praising them highly, for the good they think they are doing. But God says they are worshipping the dragon, and the beast.

We may see by all this, what effect satan has on the minds of men. He makes them think they are very holy. They can even live without sin. God says that there is not a just man upon the earth that doeth good and sinneth not.

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16. I, Jesus, have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

There are a great many people who say that the things described in these last two chapers of this book, are the mansions of glory. I would ask will there be churches in the future world ? Matt. 22:30, "For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven. I am the root, the throne which David sat on was God's throne. God was well pleased with much of David's work, but his sins did mar his work greatly. These four beasts are in the midst of the throne and round about the throne, in the millennial period will be better qualified to be rulers than David was. God will give them a sevenfold portion of his holy spirit. The offspring of David. David was one of those who were in the line of which Christ came. "The bright and morning star." His brightness will exceed the brightness of all the stars for ever and ever.

17. And the spirit and the bride say, come. And let him that heareth say, come. And let him that is athirst come, and whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

The Spirit is the holy Spirit of God. The bride are all the true people of God. They are anxious that the multitude of unregenerate people who are outside of the church would come and take the water of life. And let him that heareth say come. Every one who heareth, is hereby commissioned by God to endeavor to make plain before the minds of men the way of salvation, as taught in the word of God. Him that is athirst, that is any who has got a knowledge of the miserable state that we are in by nature, and has a longing for a change. And whosoever will. Christ says "ye will not come." It is surely very strange that so many people are so unwilling to come and take the water of life which is so freely offered.

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18. For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophesy of this book, if any man shall add unto these things,God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book.

19. And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophesy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

This is certainly a very strong high wall. If it is meant by the great God to be around the whole old and new testament, as I believe it is, truly it is wonderful how many there are who have the hardihood to go over it. Many great ones are teaching that a great part of the book is not true, but especially the Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs contained in it.

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20. He which testifieth these things saith, surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

21. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.